

Carpenter (Saml M.)

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CHARITIES OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

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Carpenter (Sarah M.)

STATISTICAL EXTRACT

FROM THE

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK,

RELATING TO

The Charities of the Second Judicial District.

BY

MISS SARAH M. CARPENTER,

COMMISSIONER.



TRANSMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE JANUARY 20, 1881.

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1881.

# STATE OF NEW YORK.

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## MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

OF THE

# STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES.

1881.

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HON. JOSEPH B. CARR, Secretary of State .....	ALBANY.
HON. JAMES W. WADSWORTH, Comptroller .....	ALBANY.
HON. HAMILTON WARD, Attorney-General.....	ALBANY.

### MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND SENATE.

<i>First Judicial District.</i>	THEODORE B. BRONSON, 26 West 20th street, New York.
<i>New York County.....</i>	EDWARD C. DONNELLY, Manhattanville, New York. (Under chapter 571, Laws of 1873.)
<i>New York County.....</i>	MRS. C. R. LOWELL, 120 E. 30th street, New York. (Under chapter 571, Laws of 1873.)
<i>Second Judicial District,</i>	SARAH M. CARPENTER, Poughkeepsie.
<i>Kings County.....</i>	RIPLEY ROPES, 40 Pierrepont street, Brooklyn. (Under chapter 571, Laws of 1873.)
<i>Third Judicial District,</i>	JOHN H. VAN ANTWERP, 2 Lodge street, Albany.
<i>Fourth Judicial District,</i>	EDWARD W. FOSTER, Potsdam, St. Lawrence Co.
<i>Fifth Judicial District,</i>	JOHN C. DEVEREUX, Utica.
<i>Sixth Judicial District,</i>	SAMUEL F. MILLER, Franklin, Delaware Co.
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OFFICE OF THE BOARD: 1 LAFAYETTE STREET, ALBANY.

## REPORT.

### *To the State Board of Charities :*

In compliance with your request, I herewith submit a statement of the condition of the various charitable institutions of the second judicial district, exclusive of Kings county.

My visits have been made without previous arrangement, yet I have been cordially received and rendered all necessary aid by officials in charge, in making my examinations of the several premises and their inmates.

It is with pleasure that I testify to the general good order and cleanliness usually pervading them at the times of my visits.

There seemed to be a manifest desire by all, to administer the affairs of the institutions intrusted to them, in the best interests of the State and for the welfare of the inmates.

My statements are intended to represent the condition of the respective institutions as seen by myself, at the time of my visits, and to specify methods of government and management as learned from officers in charge, and from other sources.

It does not seem to me best to note more than briefly the branches of existing institutions, having no separate incorporation, but which are controlled and supported by the original institutions in New York city, where their officers and managers reside.

Neither have I more than named such institutions as properly belong to New York city, but which have their location in the country, from sanitary considerations, economy, or expediency. To this class belong the Sailors' Snug Harbor, the Mariners' Family Asylum, and the Children's Home, of Richmond county.

The Hudson River State Hospital for the Insane, at Poughkeepsie, and the State Homœopathic Asylum for the Insane, at Middletown, submit annual reports directly to the Legislature, and need not, therefore, be here noticed.

The institutions referred to in this report will be noticed under the head of the respective counties.

### DUTCHESS COUNTY :

County Poor-House,  
Highland Hospital,  
New York Conference Home, )  
St. Margaret's Home,



# **DUTCHESS COUNTY — Continued.**

Poughkeepsie City Alms-House,  
 Old Ladies' Home,  
 House of Industry,  
 Orphan House,  
 St. Barnabas' Hospital,  
 Vassar Brothers' Home for Aged Men.

## **ORANGE COUNTY :**

County Poor-House,  
 St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, of Port Jervis,  
 Orphanage of Our Lady of Mercy,  
 Newburgh City Alms-House,  
 Children's Home,  
 Home for the Friendless,  
 St. Luke's Home and Hospital,  
 St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum.

## **PUTNAM COUNTY :**

County Poor-House.

## **QUEENS COUNTY :**

County Poor-House,  
 County Asylum,  
 Jones' Institute, alias North Hempstead and Oyster Bay Town  
 Poor-House,  
 Hempstead Town Poor-House.

## **RICHMOND COUNTY :**

County Poor-House,  
 Childs' Hospital and Nursery,  
 Mariners' Family Asylum,  
 S. R. Smith Infirmary,  
 Sailors' Snug Harbor,  
 Society for Relief of Destitute Children of Seamen.

## **ROCKLAND COUNTY :**

County Poor-House,  
 House of the Good Shepherd,  
 Teachers' Rest.

## **SUFFOLK COUNTY :**

County Poor-House,  
 Children's Home,  
 St. Johnland.

## **WESTCHESTER COUNTY :**

County Poor-House,

# WESTCHESTER COUNTY—Continued.

Boland Farm,  
St. John's Riverside Hospital,  
St. Joseph's Home for Children,  
Wartburgh Orphans' Farm School,  
Westchester Temporary Home for Protestant Children.]

## DUTCHESS COUNTY POOR-HOUSE.

### *Town of Washington.*

Coffin's Summit railroad station and post-office; visited February 4th, April 27, and May 22, 1880; superintendent, David S. Tallman.

By authority of law an agreement of separation was entered into between the city of Poughkeepsie and county of Dutchess, by which each received its proportion of the county house property, and assumed the care of its own poor.

One hundred and five and twenty-two-hundredths acres of land were sold by appointed commissioners.

In 1863 seventy-four acres, and in 1864, twenty-nine acres were purchased by commissioners at a cost of \$7,764.93, and plain, badly arranged poor-house buildings erected at a cost of \$10,380 for the main house, and \$4,000 for the boiler and heater.

In 1865 a house was erected for the keeper, costing \$5,764.92, and in the same year repairs and other buildings cost \$3,877.63.

Previous to 1878 the cost of the poor-house property exclusive of ordinary running expenses amounted to over \$45,000.

The evils resulting from the want of adaptation becoming more evident year by year, the county visiting committee of the State Board of Charities reported its condition to the board of supervisors in 1876, and again in 1877, afterwards addressing an open letter to the citizens of the county. A committee of supervisors—Messrs. Jaycox, Tompkins and Bowman—was appointed, and in the spring of 1879, made many repairs. A new stairway was built, blinds put upon the house, old floors were relaid, drainage and ventilation improved. All was accomplished that could be wisely done with the appropriation at command.

The poor-house still being in an unsatisfactory condition, the building committee reported to the supervisors, and recommended still other improvements; a local committee also reported its needs. The supervisors appointed Messrs. Jaycox, Abel and Storm a building committee for 1880.

Externally the house presented a fair appearance. Realizing the importance of future work being done upon a fixed plan, and upon right principles, in the cause of morality and for the best interest of tax payers, the committee invited experienced counsel. On May 22, 1880, a conference was held at the county poor-house, consisting of the president, secretary of the State Board of Charities, the commissioner of the district, the building committee, the local committee of the State Charities Aid Association and others, which resulted in the unanimous adoption by the building committee of the plan as proposed by the State Board of Charities.



The appropriation was \$1,000.

The desired object was to perfect a complete division of the house and grounds into two departments.

This was economically accomplished, more by a skillful rearrangement, and utilization of material on the ground, than by the erection of new buildings, although future enlargements are included in the plan, if in time they become desirable or necessary.

Rooms and out-buildings have been removed from the north of the house to the east; the keeper's house from the south of the women's yard to the north of the poor-house and joined to it by a covered passage, not near enough to obstruct light or ventilation, thus changing the front of the house from the west to the north.

On the south of the poor-house, in a line with the keeper's house, it is intended to erect a new one-story brick kitchen; beyond, the boiler, coal and engine-house, opening from the men's yard, and the wood and wash-house opening from the women's yard. From the laundry, a fence is to run each way to the poor-house, thus making two good exercise yards.

The appropriation being insufficient to complete the plan, the kitchen remains unbuilt. For the first time in the history of this poor-house, men and women have each the freedom and privacy of their own exercise yards. With proper, efficient administration, the neighborhood need no longer be annoyed by roving paupers.

The work accomplished includes, besides the separation into two departments, improved drainage, ventilation and fire escapes.

The entire character and discipline of the house should be entirely changed, by the removal of the office, dispensary and store-rooms to the keeper's house in front, its hall running directly back to the kitchen, which should be accessible only to the women's division on the left, or the men's on the right. The women's apartments or hall are no longer the ordinary thoroughfare to the office or street. When complete and in good repair, the county will own a well-arranged poor-house property, with plain buildings, but quite good enough for the purpose, that will shelter its dependent and unfortunate poor for many years.

Much is due to the building committee, for their efficient and earnest efforts to use the money intrusted to them, in what, to enlightened and practical views of poor-house structure and management, would be for true economy and the best interest of the public.

The superintendent occupies a detached residence, provided and furnished by the county, and he receives in addition to the support of his family, consisting of wife and children, \$1,700 per year, out of which sum he pays his keeper, who, with his family, are also supported by the county.

The superintendent entered upon the duties of his office January 1, 1880, when the inmates numbered 160. Situations were found for some, the insane were removed to State institutions, six aged inmates died, and an order that the strong would be obliged to work reduced the number rapidly. On April 1st the books showed 142 resident, of whom ninety-five were men, twenty-seven Americans; forty white women, twenty-three American women, six colored men, and six colored women, twenty-three foreign women, sixty-two of foreign birth, five blind, eleven insane, four aliens and one mute of fifteen years, removed on September 1, to the institution at Rome.



The majority are old and feeble, and the remainder are of the class usually found in poor-houses, indolent, weak-minded, victims of unfortunate circumstances. Semi-monthly services are held by the Rev. Mr. Roberts in the dining-room, and for such as choose, a way is provided to attend the Catholic church.

Children at two years of age are placed in the Orphan House at Poughkeepsie or Colored Orphan Asylum in Brooklyn.

Dr. Pengry visits the institution twice each week. Tramps are said to average one a week, are given food and lodging, for which no work is required.

Interments are made upon the farm. There is no special department for the sick, neither have particular rooms been assigned them. The sick are said to receive their food from the superintendent's house.

House work is said to be done by the women, and the men do the most of the farm work.

The steam heating apparatus has, the past season, been examined by an expert and is said to be in perfect order.

Water is conveyed to the wash-house where it is obtained by the inmates for use.

The bedsteads are mostly old wooden ones, although some iron ones have recently been furnished, upon which straw beds and husk mattresses are used.

The tables are dark; benches and tinware are provided.

The food on the days of my visits seemed good of its kind and abundant.

On April 27, the place, although improved from its spring cleaning, showed need of an energetic matron's care.

A Swiss, for seven years a paralytic, and speechless, has recently communicated with friends through the superintendent, and it is supposed will soon be cared for by them.

A young girl, an epileptic, at the time of my visit, was confined to her bed, but with these two exceptions all were able to go to the table.

The attic when needed is used by men, and on April 27, was occupied by twenty-three. No work is required of the majority of the able-bodied men during the winter season.

The milk of ten cows is said to be given to the inmates. The buildings will accommodate 150. One hundred and eighty have been resident at one time.

The poor-house is 130 by 30 feet, and of two stories, with the dining-room in the basement.

The keeper's house is 24 by 40 feet, and the size of the kitchen to be extended back, 18 by 24 feet.

At the date of writing this statement, the improvements are not so far completed as to allow me to judge whether the arrangements resulting from them will be such as to carry out the spirit and object for which they were designed.

There is no reason why, when fully completed, this poor-house cannot be conducted with due regard to the proprieties of life.

With a poor-house planned to assist the authorities in maintaining proper government and discipline, if such are not administered and maintained, the superintendent will be entirely at fault, and should be held responsible by the people.

This poor-house needs an efficient resident matron, and a greater effort to provide suitable and profitable work for its inmates. I would suggest that more land be devoted to gardening purposes.

Rules and regulations for the government of the inmates of this poor-house, have not been made by the superintendent and submitted to the proper authority for approval as required by law. There is now no standard of discipline and government in the institution. The omission should be remedied.

Last winter the supervisor of the town of Red Hook organized in the town the giving of out-door relief by furnishing employment in stone breaking, the broken stone being used on the roads in the spring.\*

## HIGHLAND HOSPITAL.

### *Matteawan.*

Incorporated in April, 1871, under the general act of 1848; its objects being "to establish a hospital in the town of Fishkill, Dutchess county, for the reception of the sick and injured, and for rendering all necessary care, assistance and medical attention."

The property consists of a house and lot, about fifty by one hundred feet, pleasantly situated on Washington street, in the village of Matteawan, one and one-half mile from Fishkill railroad station.

It was purchased by Mr. Joseph Howland; fitted for hospital purposes, at a cost of \$2,000; organized and presented to the town of Fishkill in 1871, since which time an addition has been built by the town (containing kitchen, bath-room on first, and two rooms for patients on the upper floor), at a cost of \$1,500, contributed by citizens of Fishkill.

The hospital building is a small frame house, painted brown, with green blinds, of one and a half stories, having six rooms for patients, and with accommodations for about ten. The average number of patients has not exceeded five.

The first floor of this hospital contains the matron's room, kitchen, pantries, dining-room, operating-room, and a medicine closet, with a bathing apartment separating the two.

On the second floor are five rooms; one a children's ward, furnished by the Towanda Sunday school, on Christmas day, 1876. The rooms on this floor open into a light, airy hall, with ventilator in the roof. This hall also serves as a reading-room, having in it a case of books presented by the Presbyterian church, magazines from people of the neighborhood, and a table with its backgammon board.

On August 11th, the day of my visit, only two patients were in the hospital; one a homeless English girl, very ill with malarial fever; the other, a man injured by a fall from a scaffold.

During the year ending May 1, 1880, twenty-six patients were received, of which number seventeen had been discharged cured; two convalescent; three improved; one removed to a New York hospital, and

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\*NOTE.—The Supervisors, in December, 1880, appropriated \$1,500 to complete the repairs, in progress, upon this county poor-house. It also resolved that the superintendent purchase earthen bowls and plates to replace the tin ware now in use, chairs for the dining-room in place of benches, and to put enameled covers on the dining tables. An appropriation was also made to provide new bedsteads.



one, crushed by a railroad accident, was in a hopeless state when received, and soon thereafter died. Patients are received from any locality, without limit as to color, age, sex or nativity. It is not intended to receive chronic or contagious cases.

The majority of cases are surgical, the result of accidents on the railroad or in the factories.

There is a charge of six dollars for weekly board to those who can pay; others are received free, but are expected to assist the matron, when able, at light work, or in taking care of the sick.

This charity has no endowment fund, and is not self-supporting. Its income, other than from its pay of patients, is derived mainly from annual subscriptions, collections in churches on hospital Sunday, and donations. It has twice received appropriations, of \$200 each, from the board of supervisors.

Receipts from all sources for one year up to May 1, 1880, \$1,091.50; expenses for the same period, \$962.21; total daily cost of patient, \$1.17.

Water is supplied from a cistern, is pumped into the house and bath-tub, is heated on the kitchen stove, and carried where required.

The building is warmed by stoves and drums. Iron bedsteads and mostly hair mattresses are in use. Patients are not allowed to leave the premises without the matron's permit, and smoking and tobacco chewing are forbidden, except by permission of the committee.

The institution is in the immediate care of a matron, Mrs. Mary Whitson, who has held the position for seven years past, and provides for the household, except luxuries or extras, receiving for board of patients four dollars per week each, and one dollar a day as nurse, without regard to the number of patients. She is assisted by one girl, who is paid by the managers two dollars a week, her board being given by Mrs. Whitson.

Until two years past members of the Young Men's Christian Association served as watchers; since that time nurses for night are hired by the managers, if they are needed.

The officers visit it frequently, each having stated periods of time in which to supervise the hospital and its arrangements.

On August 11, the day of my visit, the premises were neat and clean, quiet and peaceful, and the sick very comfortably cared for.

There is said to be a feeling of increasing interest in this charity by the community.

Physicians attend regularly and gratuitously.

During the year ending September 30, 1880, there were twenty-two patients admitted, of whom nine were Americans, one English, nine from Ireland, one from France, one from Canada, and one from Germany.

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Hon. J. J. Monell, President.

Mrs. Chas. Schubert, Vice-President.

Gen. J. Howland, Secretary.

Rev. E. T. Bartlett, Treasurer.

Rev. J. L. Scott, Mrs. L. Tompkins, Mrs. E. Van Rensselaer, Mrs. E. C. Kent.

## VISITING PHYSICIANS.

Henry Slack, M. D., J. H. Doughty, M. D., J. P. Schenck, M. D.

## CONSULTING PHYSICIAN.

L. H. White, M. D.

## NEW YORK CONFERENCE HOME.

Visited August 31, 1880.

Is located at Mt. Reutson, two and one-half miles north of the village of Rhinebeck, and consists of a farm valued at \$6,000, presented to the New York Conference by Mr. Thomas Suckley.

It is not under separate act of incorporation, inasmuch as the property belongs to and is governed, managed and supported by the New York Conference, an incorporated body, with all the rights and privileges bestowed upon it by its charter.

The object of this charity is to provide homes for retired Methodist ministers and their families, where they may receive the comforts of life, and the family relation be preserved.

The place is in charge of a farmer, who supplies the residents with fruits, milk, and the products of the farm as their needs require.

It is conducted on the cottage system, each household being entirely distinct and independent.

In May, 1879, two families became resident, and the arrangements for their comfort are said to be both generous and pleasant. The location is retired, and the quiet peacefulness is attractive.

It seems appropriate that so pleasant a place should be prepared for those who have spent their strength and their days laboring for others in simple faith and trust.

## ST. MARGARET'S HOME.

*Red Hook.*

Is an unincorporated private charity, orphanage and industrial school combined, with accommodations for twelve young girls, who receive a thoroughly practical and useful education.

It was founded by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. B. Astor, by whom it was entirely supported and managed, having neither board of managers nor trustees during their lives and is now supported by their heirs.

Visited August 31, 1880.

## POUGHKEEPSIE CITY ALMS-HOUSE.

Visited February 20 and June 22, 1880.

Is located in the eastern part of the city of Poughkeepsie, one mile from the post-office, near the street car route, and the Dutchess turn-pike.

By acts of 1861-4 the office of overseer of the poor was abolished, for the city of Poughkeepsie, and a division made of the county poor-house property, proportionately between it and the county of Dutchess,



each from that time supporting its own poor. In 1864 six alms-house commissioners for the city were appointed "to possess the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes, two to be elected annually for a term of three years each."

The city alms-house costing \$28,000, and ready for occupation November, 1868, was built near the site of the county-house, on sixteen acres of the farm then sold, in order to perfect and carry out the arrangement for division and separation of the county poor, and afterward purchased by the commissioners at a cost of \$22,000.

The alms-house is built of brick with white trimmings and consists of a central three-story building, with wings of two stories, each, and a basement that extends under the whole structure.

The western section is mainly occupied by the superintendent as a residence, the eastern by the women.

On the right of the main entrance is the reading-room, opening from the large hall that serves as the superintendent's office, with a telephone communication to the city, and north is the dispensary, in charge of Dr. D. B. Ward, house physician.

On the second floor, extending across the house, with both north and south windows, is the chapel, in which Catholic services are held each Sabbath morning, and Protestant religious services, conducted by the Young Men's Christian Association, in the afternoon.

In case of death among either inmates or outside poor, appropriate burial services are held, and interments made in the cemetery.

Water is brought to the house and distributed over it, and the inmates are said to comply with the regulations as to its use.

The dining, kitchen and store-rooms are in the basement, as is also the conveniently-arranged laundry.

As yet there is no drainage into the city sewers, the latter not being sufficiently near to permit the much-needed connection being made.

The work of the house and grounds is done mainly by the inmates, but a cook is hired and makes very good bread.

On February 20, and June 22, all about the institution was clean and in order, and the food on the table nutritious and abundant.

Special attention is said to be given to change of diet, no two successive dinners being alike. Vegetables and fruit are furnished frequently, according to the season; rice and milk, mush and milk, with tea for the aged, constitute the summer suppers; while coffee is provided in the morning and at noon.

The land connected with the house is managed by the superintendent, tilled by alms-house labor, and is said to be very productive, yielding large supplies of vegetables that contribute much to the variety of food and to reduce the cost of board.

North of the alms-house are the exercise yards for men and women, also buildings for such as need quiet, or whose habits prevent their being assigned a place in the main house.

On June 22, the inmates numbered 72; 37 were men, 35 women; 5 colored, 67 white; 3 infants, 4 epileptics, 1 idiot, 7 insane, 1 dumb and 3 blind.

The majority of the men have been without family ties. Nineteenths of the inmates are said to have been brought to their present state of destitution and dependence by habits of intemperance.

Out-door relief from December 1, to June, 1880, amounted to \$3,900; during the past winter relief was given to 330 families, after investigation of each case by the superintendent.

Under out-door relief are included coal, provisions, burying outside poor, medical attendance, carting coal, transportation, examinations in lunacy, office expenses and rent.

It is the expressed belief of those whose duty it is to attend to out-door relief that it is too freely given, and the superintendent and alms-house commissioners are trying to solve the problem how to prevent actual suffering without pauperizing the recipient.

It is the experience here, as elsewhere, that help from public institutions enervates the applicants, and leads them to the alms-house.

On June 22, 33 insane were at the Willard Asylum, and three at the Hudson River State Hospital.

On the gate-post is the following notice: "By resolution adopted by the alms-house commissioners, no tramps are allowed admission to the alms-house," yet 56 have been registered since January 1, 1880, most of whom were old men and women. In 1877, 2,000 were admitted.

The patriarch of the establishment is a partially paralyzed colored man, who was received in the old county poor-house, 40 years ago, and states that he has been in charge of 13 superintendents.

One epileptic, not twenty years of age, has been an inmate thirteen years; six for a term of sixteen years, five for fifteen, two for four, and others average six or eight; one has been blind sixteen years, and a man of eighty-eight for six years.

The inmates are old, feeble and infirm. Many of them have once occupied respectable positions until old, friendless and destitute, they were received into the poor-house.

Children of two years are taken to the orphan house. The superintendent often finds homes for infants by adoption, and on the day of my visit, was negotiating a home for a foundling of three months, whose discovered parent gladly resigned all claim to it.

Stone breaking was formerly an important feature in the industrial management. Originating, in order to break up tramping, it has been used as a means of testing and furnishing out-door relief, paying, so far as possible, for work done; and giving wages, not alms. When broken, the stone is sold for use on the streets. The recent demand has not been great.

The inmates are not allowed to leave the premises without permit.

The superintendent, Mr. Lawrence W. Dutcher, received his appointment from the alms-house commissioners, and has had supervision of the institution eight years, also superintending out-door relief, and matters relating to the city poor.

Matron, Mrs. L. W. Dutcher.

At each of my visits, the whole place was clean and in good order, and the arrangements for the conduct of the institution systematic and judicious.

Situated at a distance from the street entrance, with a drive to the door, bordered with plants and shrubs, the external appearance of the house and grounds is very attractive.



## OLD LADIES' HOME.

### *City of Poughkeepsie.*

Incorporated in 1870. In pursuance of the statute for the incorporation of religious societies, the business and object of such society is stated to be "for the support of respectable, aged, indigent Protestant women, who have been five years residents of the city of Poughkeepsie."

It is under the management of fifteen trustees, selected from seven Protestant churches of the city, who control and care for the property. This consists in part, of the house and lot, purchased and donated in 1871 by Mr. Rowland Warner, and fitted up at a total cost of about \$30,000, the title being vested in trustees for the object named in the charter. The remainder of the property is a trust fund of \$10,000, which was contributed by Mr. Warner, the founder of the home, on condition that an equal amount should be contributed by citizens of Poughkeepsie. The sum of \$20,000, thus obtained, has been increased by legacies and gifts, till it now amounts to \$27,000, from which an income is annually received, and which partially defrays the expenses of the Home, the deficiency being obtained from annual subscriptions and donations.

The Home is located on the corner of South Hamilton and Montgomery streets, the lot being 200 by 260 feet.

The building, of ionic architecture, forty feet from the street and sixty by forty feet in dimensions, was for many years the Dutchess County Academy for boys. It is a three-story brick edifice fronting the west, and with a basement containing dining-room, kitchen, laundry and store-rooms.

A broad hall opens from the piazza that extends across the front of the building, and a stairway at each end of the hall conducts respectively to the attic and basement.

The three parlors north of the hall, serving ordinarily for reception parlors and committee-rooms, can be thrown together, and are used for Sabbath services, held under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, and also for the anniversary exercises.

The infirmary is on the third floor, and the parlor for inmates on the second floor.

The hall upon the second floor opens upon a piazza, commanding a good view, and is a favorite resort.

The remainder of the house is divided into rooms of good size to accommodate twenty-three persons, one only in each room. The apartments are cheerful and pleasant, neatly furnished, many of the occupants owning the furniture.

The rooms are lighted with gas, and warmed by steam. There is a supply of water on each floor.

On my visits of June 10, and 14, 1880, the house was clean, in good order and well ventilated.

An admission fee of \$100, and furniture for a room, are now required from an applicant. All property in possession, or afterwards obtained, reverts to the institution, according to the contract signed upon entering. By due observance of a few regulations, deemed necessary to maintain the orderly government of the house-

hold, the applicant becomes a life member, and is cared for in sickness and health, having all the comforts of a home, and none of its cares and anxieties that are so often inseparable from destitute old age outside of benevolent institutions.

A reading club of young ladies, organized for the purpose, meet there regularly, and contribute to the pleasure of the household.

The inmates are expected to take charge of their own rooms. The sick are carefully watched over, and a nurse provided when requisite. On June 14, a woman over 80 years of age, and insane, was in charge of an attendant who was paid eight dollars per week.

A sale of articles, made by the inmates, or contributed by friends, is occasionally held in the parlors, and the receipts divided among the old ladies.

No deaths have occurred the past year.

Miss Noxon, the matron for two years, has given satisfaction to the managers.

The first admission was in November, 1871. The whole number received since the opening of the Home, is 33. Of this number, 10 have died; 5 have left or been discharged; 16 were single; 2 were married; and 15 were widows. There were 3 Episcopalians; 2 Congregationalists; 5 Presbyterians; 6 Dutch Reformed; 11 Methodists; 3 Baptists; and 2 Universalists. On June 14 the number of inmates was 21, whose ages ranged from 60 to 93.

Many of the inmates are too feeble to leave the house, and long for church service, including a sermon, with its teachings and comforting messages.

A kindly feeling pervades the community with reference to this work of charity and many contribute according to their ability. Editors send papers; physicians give medical advice; clergymen spiritual ministrations; young ladies freely give their time. Visitors and officers exercise a careful watchfulness for the comfort of the aged ones, and enliven their declining years by pleasant, social intercourse. Gifts of fruit and vegetables, ice, and many other little remembrances testify to the practical interest taken by so many, and at the same time lessen the expenses.

The committees are selected from the 43 lady managers, and are on application, supply, wardrobe, inventory, bedding, repairs, religious services, sickness and burial.

President, Mrs. J. D. Hager.

Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Jacob Haviland, Mrs. C. W. Swift, Mrs. A. H. Champlain.

Treasurer, Mrs. M. Vassar, Jr.

Recording Secretary, Mrs. M. P. Fowler.

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. George Corlies.

#### HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

*No 16 Liberty Street, Poughkeepsie.*

Incorporated April 24, 1871, under the general act for incorporating charitable institutions.

Its charter names 11 ladies as trustees, and states its objects as being



“to aid poor women in the city of Poughkeepsie by providing them with sewing and other like employment.” In 1864, a nursery was provided wherein children of soldiers’ wives could be cared for while the mothers were out at work. This mode of relief was soon changed and the mothers given partial employment at their homes.

In June, 1865, the House of Industry was organized, an institution that from its commencement has been productive of good.

A constitution and by-laws were adopted, placing it under the management of officers elected by the board of managers at the annual November meeting.

It is supported by “voluntary subscriptions” and sales of garments made by the workwomen.

Orders for sewing are given by the visitor of the district, after examination, to old ladies, cripples, widows and respectable women, who having resided in the city of Poughkeepsie six months, are confined at home by sickness or care of young children, and have neither husband nor children able to support them.

The value of orders given is in proportion to the need of the applicant; being at the rate of fifty cents or one dollar per week. It is not intended to give full employment, to pay unusual prices, or in any way to offer inducements which might draw from other fields of labor.

Material is purchased at wholesale prices. The majority of the applicants have been at first inexperienced, yet many have profited by their instructions and found employment elsewhere, and it is believed that the grade of work given out is higher than it was at the time of the opening of the house. Very much of the sewing is done on coarse material by untrained workers, and must necessarily be sold at a discount, often even for the price of the work, so that this charity, although skillfully and well managed as it has been, cannot from its nature be self-supporting, and will in the future as in the past need annual gifts to supply the unavoidable deficiency.

The work consists of sewing and knitting, and recently an intelligence bureau has been connected with the sewing department.

A register is kept of women who are prevented by feebleness or home duties from going out except for short periods, and who being unaccustomed to sewing can do house work. These are given orders by the day or hour, as places can be procured, for sweeping, dusting, washing and ironing.

These take the place of sewing orders, thus avoiding the loss on material that would result from sewing alone being provided.

In 1867, a contingent fund was put aside for the relief of sick women unable to work. The fund now amounts to \$1,000, and is deposited in the savings bank; the interest only is drawn upon.

In 1873, the moderate sized brick building now occupied was purchased (at a cost of \$6,000) with money collected in the city, and the title was vested in trustees.

The first floor, used for sale, store and office rooms, has for four years past been under the direct care of the matron, who has entire supervision of the fine-work department. The best workmen and material are furnished, and on the fine, or order work, there is no loss.

The remainder of the house has for seven years been occupied by and under the supervision of the assistant matron.

The expenses of the past year amount to \$3,121.34, and the receipts to \$2,451.62.

Salaries paid, matron, \$40 per month, assistant matron, \$35, and one dollar per day to sewing operator, when one is required.

From November, 1879, to May 28, 1880, the date of my visit, 66 destitute women had taken work. Of this number, 20 were Americans, 23 Irish, 4 German, 3 English and 8 colored. Two were over 80 years, and one was 75 years of age.

The giving out of work is limited to the winter months, except to a few who, being entirely dependent, receive it throughout the year.

The season is closed by the managers giving to the employees a tea-party, accompanied by appropriate anniversary exercises.

Connected with the house, and controlled by it, is a training or sewing school organized in 1874, which is in charge of Miss Kate Smith and other volunteer teachers, and has weekly sessions during the winter. By a system of merit tickets, the pupils are entitled to choose garments made in the school. Great progress is said to have been made, and the skill thus acquired has assisted many to obtain situations.

"The past winter season, closing March, 1880, children to the number of 150 attended, averaging 130, who made up 232 garments, using 268 yards of unbleached muslin, and 71 of cambric. Donations to the school, \$28.43."

President, Mrs. Wm. Wilkinson.

Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Mary L. Ferris, Mrs. Wm. B. Collins, Mrs. H. A. Loomis.

Secretary, Mrs. O. H. Booth.

Treasurer, Miss S. A. Bowne.

Matron, Mrs. DeGroff.

Assistant Matron, Mrs. Ivins.

There are standing committees on house, collecting, appraising, purchasing, contingent fund, paying, inspection, sewing-school, visiting, a cutting committee of seventy or eighty members, besides eight directors, and an advisory committee of eight gentlemen.

This charity by its good work commends itself to the public, but it is unable to accomplish all it would, if its revenue were less uncertain and limited.

#### VASSAR BROTHERS' HOME FOR AGED MEN.

*Corner Main and Vassar Streets, Poughkeepsie.*

Incorporated 1880. Erected 1880. Founded by Matthew Vassar, Jr., and John Guy Vassar.

This institution is a large building, beautiful and imposing in appearance, with accommodations for fifty, and is built upon the site of the home of the late Matthew Vassar, the founder of Vassar College, and uncle of the founders of this charity.

The arrangements for the comforts of its aged inmates are complete and well considered, and all its appointments are of the best, most comfortable and substantial character.

When fully equipped and organized, it is to be placed by its founders in charge of a board of trustees, and endowed with a fund of \$30,-



000, for the designed object of providing a good and comfortable home for aged men who are residents of the city of Poughkeepsie.

This charity, with all its thoughtful and kindly far-seeing provisions, is expected soon to be formally opened for the reception of inmates.

It is referred to now, that it may have a place among the numerous charitable institutions in the second judicial district.

## POUGHKEEPSIE ORPHAN HOUSE AND HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS.

*Corner South Hamilton and Franklin streets.*

Visited February 28, and July 23, 1880.

Organized in 1874 as the Poughkeepsie Female Guardian Society. Incorporated in 1852 under chap. 316, Laws of 1852, amended in 1868, and further modified in 1872.

Its object is to provide a home for destitute and friendless children of Dutchess county until they can be as the constitution states "committed to the guardianship of foster parents, or worthy families, who will train them to respectability and usefulness."

From 1861 to 1873 it received State aid to the average annual amount of \$1,700.

The property is situated in a retired, healthful, and pleasant locality, and consists of a lot 364 by 160 feet, on which is a substantial brick orphan house sixty by forty-five feet, three stories high, with basement and cellar, furnishing accommodations for sixty inmates.

The kitchen, dining, play rooms, and laundry are in the basement. The reception, sewing-rooms, and nursery are on the first floor.

The school-room is located on the second floor. It is furnished with a Steinway piano, purchased with money contributed by little children in the city, who held fairs, etc., for the purpose.

The dormitories are in the second and third stories. The hospital is on the upper floor, and having its own dumb-waiter, is so arranged as completely to isolate the sick when desired.

Each child has a place for its own clothing, and if of suitable age, is required to take charge of and keep its clothes in an orderly condition.

The children attend the Presbyterian church and Sabbath school. A day-school is kept in the house, at the expense of the Department of Public Instruction.

The building is warmed by a furnace, lighted by gas, and supplied with river water from the city reservoir, for bathing and other purposes. The children wash in running water.

The rooms are all of good size, bright and cheerful, and on the days of my visits were well ventilated, clean and orderly. The dormitories, with rows of neatly-made beds, appeared nice and comfortable.

Shoe-making, basket-making, sewing, house-work, and in summer, gardening are said to be taught.

The older children assist in the care for the younger.

With so large a number of children, there is the usual difficulty in furnishing each with regular duties and employments, thus aiding them in the early formation of industrious habits.

Attention is given to the diet, and although there is a regular bill of fare the matron modifies it, so as to provide the various fruits, vegetables, fish and meats in their season.

On February 28, 1880, the day of my visit, the health of the inmates was good, and it was stated that in more than one year, there had not been a case of illness requiring a physician's care; since then seven cases of scarlet fever, and twelve of whooping cough have been under treatment, yet on July 23, all but one had recovered, and that one was convalescent.

In April, 61 were resident, and July 23, 44, of which number 10 were girls and 34 boys, varying in ages from 2 to 12.

Since my visit in February, three have been placed in families, and one girl has been admitted to the idiot asylum as a State pupil, while friends had removed several on account of the scarlet fever, and of the number removed none have been ill.

Children are put out by adoption or indenturing as early as possible, "where they will be furnished with suitable maintenance and education and an annual report of their condition is required to be sent to the executive committee."

Homes are said to be readily found for promising girls, but there is more difficulty in placing boys, and as it is not desirable to retain the latter after the age of twelve, the managers have recently sent them west, under the care of the Children's Aid Society of New York, which has agents to superintend, watch over, and report their welfare to the managers.

At the opening of the institution, dependent children were sent to it from the city and county, and an appropriation was made by the supervisors to pay their expenses; now each supervisor has supervision of the children sent from his own town, and pays for board about \$1.94 per week.

The institution is supported by receipts for board, interest on investments, subscriptions and donations.

The reports of the past year prove it to have been self-sustaining. Its occasional calls for help have always been cheerfully and liberally responded to by the citizens who have confidence in the management of this charity, and believe it serves the best interest of the dependent children committed to its care.

It owns a plot in the cemetery and in case of death, the county pays the funeral expenses of its wards.

The children, happy, bright looking, and healthful, surrounded by thoughtful, kindly care and supervision, seemed to have all that is necessary to their well being.

The institution is governed by a board of forty-five managers, and eighteen gentlemen as counselors; officers are elected at the annual meeting, and hold office until their successors are chosen.

The physician attends gratuitously, and has thus contributed his services since the opening of the institution.

The resident paid officers are the matron, Mrs. Farrar, teacher, Miss Spencer, a seamstress, chambermaid, cook and laundress, whose united annual salaries amount to \$1,374.36.

First Directress, Mrs. J. B. Jewett.

Second Directress, Mrs. H. L. Young.



Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. G. W. Candee.  
 Recording Secretary, Mrs. C. M. Wright.  
 Treasurer, Mrs. C. W. Swift.  
 Physician, Per Lee Pine, M. D.

## ST. BARNABAS' HOSPITAL.

### *Poughkeepsie.*

Incorporated March 16, 1871, under the general act.

Its objects are "to maintain and support a hospital for the care and treatment of sick and disabled indigent patients."

It is located on North Clinton street, occupying a small-sized brick house, originally designed as a dwelling, purchased in 1872, at a cost of \$5,200, and fitted up for hospital uses. It is situated in a healthful, pleasant and quiet locality, away from the noise of pavements and the confusion of a city.

It was founded by, and is under direction of the three Protestant Episcopal churches of the city, having its officers selected from them.

It is unsectarian. One regulation reads: "Patients desiring special religious ministrations will notify the matron, who will see that they are furnished, if in her power."

Built on a hill side, the entrance is a few steps below the street, yet the basement, in which are the kitchen, dining and store-rooms, is above ground. Passing through these, one enters directly into the lot, where there are fruit trees and a small garden.

The first floor has a reception and operating-rooms, and one ward with four beds. The second floor is occupied by patients and one store-room, and the attendants' rooms are above.

The arrangement is perhaps as convenient as could be expected, in a building not originally designed for hospital purposes.

The rooms are cheerful, well lighted, and ventilated, and the drainage very good.

Thus far, it has supplied the needs of the community, never having "been overcrowded," and will accommodate sixteen.

Visited February 20, and June 11, 1880.

On February 20, ten patients were in the hospital, on June 11, five.

Accident cases are taken immediately to the hospital; for ordinary cases of sickness it is necessary to make proper application to the matron.

The inmates of the past year have mostly needed surgical treatment.

The limited accommodations do not admit of the reception of chronic or incurable cases, as space would be occupied to the exclusion of surgical and acute cases.

The record of the institution from its organization proves that the majority of patients admitted to the hospital have been successfully treated, and their restored health, witnesses to the care and skill bestowed upon the sick, unfortunate, suffering, and dependent; many cases result from railroad accidents, and are in a critical state when received. The medical staff contribute their time and services, and have successfully performed many difficult operations.

The expenses of this institution have been defrayed by money received in payment for board of patients, an annual appropriation of \$500 from the board of supervisors, private contributions from members of all religious denominations, annual subscriptions, and otherwise. As yet, these resources have not failed this frugally managed charity.

The hospital is under the direct care of the matron Miss Morgan, and is visited at stated periods by the board of fifteen lady managers.

During the year closing October 1, 1880, 62 patients have received medical and surgical treatment. Of this number, 38 were discharged cured, 6 died. On October 1, 1880, three remained in the hospital.

The receipts for the year, ending October 1, amount to \$1,880.75, expenses, \$2,110.02, making the daily expense for the average number of twelve, \$5.78. A weekly basket of fruits and provisions contributed, reduces the daily expenses.

This hospital has been regularly visited by a committee of visitors of the State Board of Charities, who have invariably reported it as a well-conditioned, and well-managed institution.

On each of my visits, it was clean, in order, well ventilated, and the patients appeared in as comfortable a state as their various ailments would permit.

President, William A. Davies.

Vice-President, Rev. R. F. Crary.

Treasurer, Stephen M. Buckingham.

Secretary, Rev. S. H. Synnott.

A board of nine trustees.

#### MEDICAL BOARD FOR 1880-81.

Physicians. — A. B. Harvey, M. D., John C. Payne, M. D., A. Hasbrouck, M. D., G. C. Bayley, M. D.

Surgeons. — R. K. Tuthill, M. D., E. H. Parker, M. D., J. R. Cooper, M. D., C. M. Campbell, M. D.

Consulting Physician.—Edward L. Beadle, M. D.

Consulting Surgeon.—Jacob Bockee, M. D.

#### ORANGE COUNTY POOR-HOUSE.

##### *Orange Farm.*

Superintendent, James H. Goodale.

Matron, Mrs. Goodale.

Keeper, P. A. Millspaugh.

Visited March 3, and July 8, 1880.

The Orange County Poor-House is located three miles from Goshen, near the railroad station, and on the county or Orange farm, containing two hundred and sixty-three acres of highly cultivated land, and having upon it suitable houses, barns, sheds, shops and other necessary buildings, for the use of the institution.

The poor-house was erected in 1830 at a cost of \$12,000. It is a large, substantial stone building with a wing, and is divided into several distinct departments. Connected with it is a brick asylum for the insane, completed in 1875, Orange county having been exempted by the State Board of Charities from the operations of the Willard Asylum act.



It is under the immediate active supervision of the superintendent, whose residence and office are on the first floor of the main building.

Above, and upon the east side are the apartments for sick and old men, the men's sitting-room being in the basement, and the remainder of the house occupied by women.

The nursery is in the large attic, in which there is a hall and eight rooms.

The poor-house laundry is in a small, two-story stone extension upon the south, the lower floor being also used as a wash-room by the men; water is said to be taken to the women's rooms for toilet purposes.

In winter, two, and in summer, three meals each day are provided in the basement dining-room, where 72 can dine at once, there being a succession of meals until all are served, the women eating first, and the men afterward.

The kitchen is west of the basement-hall, where the cooking is done by steam; and beyond is the bakery and a tin-lined bread-room filled with very good bread; and the engine-room with its new double boilers and steam heating apparatus, all said to be in perfect order.

The whole establishment is warmed by steam; and on July 8, the day of my visit, was clean, in good order, and well ventilated.

In the superintendent's absence I was shown about, and afforded every needed facility for an examination of each department, by the keeper and Miss Goodale.

Back of the poor-house is a stone building, that since my visit in March has been changed by the superintendent into apartments for the colored inmates, numbering about 30, more than one-half of whom were women. There was an infant of a few days, also a child of one year, with the rickets; and a girl of six that takes care of an old blind woman. The two outside doors and stairways of this apartment are locked at night, and under supervision during the day.

The cellars are used for vegetables and milk. Thirty cows furnish milk and butter for the household.

Back of the work-shop is a frame-house, formerly occupied by the colored people, now nicely fitted up for the sick; in the first room was a very sick man, under the good care of his wife.

This poor-house in all its departments, it is said, can accommodate 450. The inmates are not allowed to leave the premises without permit, and are like those in all poor-houses, old, feeble, insane, weak-minded and unfortunate.

On July 8, 230 were registered; of these, 154 were men; 76 women; 1 mute; 1 insane mute; 30 colored; 1 blind; 3 colored children; 2 vagrants; 1 cobbler; 2 white infants under two years; and 1 two years old. Five have been in the poor-house over 25 years each; and 65 were insane.

Of the 230 resident, 50 were German, 154 Irish, and the remainder native born.

In the wing at right angles with the main house is the old ladies' department or home for the aged, arranged by the considerate matron, as a quiet retreat for the aged and infirm women, who have it is said mostly led respectable lives, and driven by want and misfortune to the county home, find in the seclusion of this department, the quiet and rest always grateful to old age.

This home has 32 inmates, four being crippled or helpless, two blind and three epileptic, their ages ranging from 60 to 70, one being over 90 years old, all under the charge of a paid nurse. This apartment has its separate kitchen and dining-room. The occupants seem very comfortably and pleasantly situated.

Spring water is forced into and over the house in abundant supply. An ice-house has recently been built. A Western Union Telegraph office is located in the building.

A pest-house built in 1875 has remained unoccupied. The underground drainage is said to be very good.

The local committee have at times supplied newspapers, and varied literature has been forwarded from the Goshen bookstores. There is a well-filled case of books in the asylum hall.

Tramps have this season averaged from two to three per week, and last winter 25, being a great reduction from former years.

Temporary or outdoor relief is given by the superintendent, and there is said to be a growing demand for, and an increased dependence upon it.

Semi-monthly Sabbath services are held in the lower hall of the asylum by the Rev. Mr. Selleck and the Rev. Mr. Hick.

The Catholic inmates attend their own church at Goshen. There is a burial ground on the farm, and Miss Goodale has commenced keeping a record of interments and their location.

From November 1, 1879, to July 8, 1880, there were 19 deaths and 4 births: most of the inmates are without family ties.

There seemed to be little sickness in the institution other than that caused by old age; there were no fevers or contagious diseases.

Two committed vagrants were enjoying the comforts of this well-conditioned poor-house.

Sane inmates are obliged to work as their strength permits, and to assist in the labor of the farm, while the insane are taken out in the cool morning and evening, to work in the garden.

Intemperance is said to have caused the dependence of nine-tenths of the inmates, and the majority are of foreign birth.

The division of the poor-house is complete throughout, but does not extend to the grounds.

The dependent Protestant children of the county are placed at the Susquehanna Valley Home, the colored at the Brooklyn Colored Orphan Asylum, and those of Catholic parentage at St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Port Jervis, where on July 8, sixty-five were boarding, at the rate of one dollar and a half per week. Before January 1, 1880, two dollars a week had been the price of board. At the same time fifteen were being boarded in families, many of them where temporary relief was required.

During the winter of 1879 and '80, places were found for ten colored children, and the demand was not supplied.

The superintendent has performed the duties of his office eleven successive years, and during that period of time the institution has had but one keeper. The household appears as well ordered and disciplined, as one composed of such varied temperaments and conditions can be.



The buildings are all good and substantial, with large pleasant rooms, and in good repair. The farm is said to be well cultivated.

The superintendent is aided by a keeper, and nine paid assistants, viz. : cook, engineer, nurse, and the attendants for the asylum.

The insane of Orange county are mostly supported at Orange farm, the county having in 1875 completed a brick asylum of four and one-half stories, forty by eighty feet, designed to accommodate one hundred patients.

This asylum is connected with the poor-house by way of the Old Ladies' Home, having, in addition to this, its own outside entrances. From its windows there is a view of the well kept yard, with its walks and flowers, where the patients are brought by the attendants as seems best.

The four wards of this asylum have each the complete equipments of a well-ordered asylum for the chronic insane.

There is a plentiful supply of water, both hot and cold, in each ward, as needed.

Each ward has its own dining-room, and shelves or closets, filled with glass, plated, and other table service, tastefully arranged, and these are kept in order by the patients.

On July 8, the day of my visit, the insane numbered sixty-five. Of these, ten were demented, and ten of the milder cases were distributed as seemed best to the superintendent in other departments of the poor-house.

The kitchen, laundry, store-rooms, and a large range, where the cooking is done entirely separate from that of the other departments, are located in the basement.

A bill of fare is prepared with special regard to the needs of the insane.

The second and third wards are for women, the first and fourth for men, who were upon the day of my visit, with few exceptions, in their exercise yard, in charge of an attendant, and protected from the hot sun by a shed.

The hands of one insane man, sixty years of age, were in a muffle; subject to paroxysms since fourteen years of age, he has learned to judge of their approach, and is said to desire the muffle put on to guard against his own bodily injury.

Of the cribs, two are said to be regularly occupied at night.

No restraint book is kept in any of the wards, as it is said to be so little used as to be unnecessary.

In the second ward one muffle and a camisole are occasionally used.

Only two or three women will employ themselves at any time; I saw two knitting, and one in charge of a ward dining-room.

Two men were at work in another dining-room.

Three insane men and one woman are epileptic. The duration of the insanity had been from one to twenty-five years.

One woman had been demented eight or ten years.

About ten men work at suitable times in the garden.

The insane in the county are said to be increasing in numbers; acute cases are sent to the Middletown State Hospital, where there are at present twenty-seven soon to be returned to Orange farm as chronic cases.

Dr. A. P. Ferris, of Florida, visits both poor-house and asylum, three times each week and oftener if he is required.

Since 1875, thirteen cases are said have been discharged as cured.

Much attention is said to be given to the entertainment or amusement of the patients. There is a piano in one of the ward halls, and some of the patients are said to enjoy the music and dancing.

Members of the superintendent's family and the attendants join in games.

The exercise yards are used and daily walks taken.

The whole asylum was in a very neat and orderly condition; some of the halls and rooms are very tastefully decorated.

### ST. MARY'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

#### *Port Jervis, Orange County.*

Established in 1871. Is an unincorporated institution, under the control and management of six sisters of charity, from the Mother Home of Mt. St. Vincent.

It was built with an appropriation of \$5,000, received from the State, under direction of the Rev. James Nilan, then pastor of the Roman Catholic church, at Port Jervis.

The orphanage is pleasantly located near the church, and is a small-sized brick house, containing a private chapel, reception and work-rooms on the first floor, the dormitories being above, and the dining-rooms and kitchen in the basement.

The school-rooms are in a white frame building, back of the asylum and adjoining it.

From its organization until 1876, when in accordance with State law the destitute children of Orange county, of Catholic parentage, were placed therein by the superintendent of the poor, the average number of orphans sheltered it was five or six.

The object is stated to be "to make these children self-reliant and worthy of trusts that may be reposed in them in their several conditions, and to prepare them to become self-supporting citizens."

Children are received from three to fourteen years of age. On July 9, 1880, the day of my visit, 69 were registered; of these 64 were placed there by the county superintendent of poor, who paid board for them at a weekly rate of \$1.50 each; previous to December, 1879, \$2.00 per week had been received.

It is intended to apprentice or indenture the children as rapidly as suitable homes can be found. A watchful care is said to be extended over them in their new homes, and "if mistakes are made in placing a child, and it seems best, it is received again in the orphanage."

While in the institution, children are said to be taught every thing useful or that will be of service in after life, gardening, housework, dressmaking, sewing, cooking, sweeping, dusting, and any thing that the little people can do.

Several sewing machines are in the house, and instruction is given in their use.

I saw the children in their school-room where they are daily instructed by a sister of charity, and to judge from their healthy appear-

ance and active ways, they must receive very good care and instruction.

An ample supply of water is conveyed to each floor.

The arrangements seemed convenient and appropriate for the purpose designed; the dormitories were neatly kept, and well ordered; the children are said to be strong and healthful; since 1871 but three deaths have occurred.

The institution is supported by money received for board of children from Orange county.

Occasional entertainments or exhibitions are given by the children.

Two sisters teach without salary in the parish school, and the parish furnishes gas and fuel to the asylum in return.

Sister Matilda, Sister Servant.

#### ORPHANAGE OF OUR LADY OF MERCY.

*Mother Mary Alphonsus, Local Superior.*

This home for children is located at Balmville, two miles from Newburgh.

It is conducted by a community of ten sisters of mercy from the Institution of Mercy, New York city, to which the children are committed by police justices of New York city, then forwarded to the Branch house at Balmville.

On August 13, 1880, the day of my visit, 212 boys, from four to twelve years of age, were at the home. All had been committed from New York city, and are supported by it at the rate of two dollars per week each, for which sum the boys are furnished "board, shelter, care, clothing and instruction."

The majority of the boys are said to have either a father or a mother living, who is unable to support them because of poverty or dissipation. Many are reclaimed by parents who, in time, become able to support them.

Instruction is given in plain English branches.

The building occupied by the children is large and of brick, situated in the rear of the convent, and erected about three years since.

The refectory is in the basement and the school-room and chapel are on the first floor, the dormitories being on the second and third floors.

I saw many of the boys in the school-room, and was much pleased with their work and their singing.

Most of the 12 acres of ground is cultivated as a vegetable garden, and the boys are instructed in gardening or farming; an effort is said to be made to teach them whatever may be useful to them in the future. The children are said to be placed in homes, by indenturing or adoption, but there is difficulty in obtaining suitable situations.

This home in charge of our Lady of Mercy is a branch of St. Joseph's home for children, conducted by sisters of mercy, corner of Madison avenue and Eighty-first street, New York city, where "the baby boys" are sent, and children are first committed.



## ALMS-HOUSE.

*City and Town of Newburgh, Lake Street.*

In 1769, at the annual election held in Newburgh precinct, £30 was voted for the support of the poor; in 1778, £200; and in 1814, a town poor-house was erected, \$1,500 being voted by the town for the object. In 1831, the town of Newburgh and county of Orange united in supporting the poor, Newburgh selling its town poor-house and paying its proportion of the whole expense, until in accordance with the provisions of an act passed in 1853, and its amendments, an agreement was made in which the city and town of Newburgh and county of Orange were each to provide for its own poor.

In place of overseers of the poor there are six alms-house commissioners possessing the powers of a corporation for public services.

The proportion of county property due the city and town, and to be expended in a provision for its own poor, was appropriated to the purchase of the present alms-house property at a cost of \$27,000. Buildings were erected and opened in 1853 with 55 inmates, 49 being insane, as Newburgh's proportion of the county poor. Improvements have since been made and the property is now said to be valued at \$35,000.

The alms-house is pleasantly situated two miles from the river with its street entrance one-quarter of a mile distant, a good carriage road bordered with trees, leading to the house.

The farm of 74 acres borders on Muchatores lake, with a good road on its banks and around the property.

The alms-house is a substantial brick and stone building 46 by 80 feet and three stories above the basement, having an addition of two stories, 35 by 60 feet, which is occupied by men.

The superintendent was appointed by the alms-house commissioners March, 1878, and has his office and residence on the first floor of the main alms-house, connected by telephone with the city office.

The dining-room, kitchen, laundry and store-rooms are in the basement. Three meals are served each day throughout the year, women eating first and men afterward.

The tables are covered with light oil cloth, furnished with white earthen dishes and with benches for sitting.

The bread is made by a woman who receives board for herself and child as pay for services, and it has been good on the two occasions of my tasting it.

The bill of fare is said to be, Monday, corn beef, potatoes and vegetables; Tuesday, soup; Wednesday, fried fish or beef stew; Thursday, corn beef and vegetables or beef stew; Friday, fish; Saturday, beef stew; Sunday, beef stewed or roasted. Potatoes and vegetables at all dinners. For breakfast, cold meat, bread and butter, tea or coffee. Supper, bread, butter and tea and occasionally stewed fruit.

The women's department is in the main alms-house above the first floor and the occupants were in a general state of feebleness and helplessness from old age, disease and weak minds.

Dr. L. G. Wiggins has been the alms-house physician eleven years and visits it daily.

Of the eight deceased since January 1, five were interred in the cemetery on the place, and religious services were held at each burial.

On March 15, 81 were registered, 45 men, one colored woman, three insane men and two women, and six babies.

Two shoe-makers and three carpenters were at work in the shops.

There had been no epidemic the past year. The sickness has been such as is incident to old age.

The separation of the sexes that is carried out in the house does not extend to the grounds.

Religious services are held regularly by members of the Young Men's Christian Association in a room on the first floor opposite the men's sitting-room, that also serves as a reading-room and contains a large collection of books.

Water is brought from Little pond and conveyed to the kitchen, laundry and the lower floor of the wing.

The building, with the exception of the nursery, is warmed by a furnace.

The beds are of straw, bedsteads of wood, made by inmates of the institution.

Children at two years of age are placed in the children's home, organized and managed by the alms-house commissioners.

Supplies are purchased in large quantities and furnished for alms-house, children's home, and also for the outdoor relief.

Vagrants are committed by the recorder to the alms-house, provided with cells and work as the superintendent directs; after the first commitment, the sentence it is said, is not felt as a punishment.

The insane are of the milder forms of insanity, and are distributed about the house as is thought prudent, and have perfect freedom on the grounds.

Sick women are cared for in rooms assigned by the matron, Mrs. Gardiner, for the purpose. This whole department seemed like an old ladies' home, in its quiet, orderly arrangements and neatness and in the age and feebleness of the occupants.

The buildings are all new in appearance, in good repair and well painted.

The wing or men's department has eleven small rooms on the upper floor and a hospital room with seven beds. Eighteen men were on this floor and two were sick with chills and fever.

The lower hall has thirteen rooms occupied by twenty-two men. Of these none were confined to their rooms. The idiots and most troublesome cases are lodged here.

Food is sent to the rooms of four women and two men.

The work of the house is done by the inmates.

One man is hired on the farm; the remainder of work is done by the men who labor as they are able, some slowly for a day, others an hour or two. Twenty-nine grown persons are unable to do any work.

Twenty acres of the farm are cultivated, seventeen being in a garden.

The vegetables raised are principally used in the alms-house and children's home.

The produce this year is estimated at 1,000 bushels of potatoes, 25

tons of hay, 700 bushels of beets, and 500 of turnips, 4,000 cabbages, and two acres of sweet corn.

The carriage-house and ice-house are of brick.

Drain-pipes of cement are laid around the house and back of the barn.

The small-pox hospital is a one-story house with attic and high basement, well finished and fitted, has green blinds, and a hydrant near. It is three hundred yards north-west of the alms-house, beyond the barns and all other buildings.

A shed is near where tramps are obliged to break stone, to pay for their breakfast and supper, the stone being sold for roads, if opportunity offers.

No record of inmates previous to the past six years has been kept; now it is carefully attended to.

On August 12, seventy-two were registered, forty-four men and twenty-eight women. English, five; German, one; Americans, thirty-five; Irish, thirty-one; one shoemaker, one stone-mason, one carpenter; four vagrant women, and one man, four under two years of age, two lame, one idiot, one epileptic deaf and dumb idiot, three male epileptics, and one female, three insane men and one insane woman. Twenty-three are between seventy and ninety-five years of age. One has been resident twenty-five years, one twenty, and nine ranged from eleven to fifteen years. Since January 1 there were two births.

The painting of the walls has been completed since my visit in March, the library and chapel-room supplied with benches, the wood-work stained and varnished in the men's sitting-room and other places, old bedsteads have been replaced with new, an unused attic has been fitted into five large rooms, and a large hall, light and cheerful, used as a women's sitting-room.

The whole place appeared in good repair and well-managed, clean and orderly.

In winter, the windows were filled with a profusion of plants, and in summer the surroundings are made beautiful by well-kept flower-beds and a green lawn.

Superintendent, Chauncey F. Gardiner.

Matron, Mrs. Gardiner.

This alms-house very much needs an exercise yard or inclosure for each department.

Out-door relief is afforded at the discretion of the superintendent, who has charge of this department.

## THE CHILDREN'S HOME.

### *Newburgh.*

This is pleasantly located near the river on Colden street. Visited February 27, and March 15, 1880. Organized 1877 by the alms-house commissioners to receive and provide for the city and town's dependent children (over two years of age), till indentured, adopted or placed in homes.

It is controlled by the commissioners of the alms-house, who furnish food, clothing and needful supplies, and is in charge of Mrs. Odell, as matron.



On March 15, 48 were registered, and on August 12, 27 boys and 23 girls, of whom ten were under five years of age, and all under 13 years.

The open location, fresh air, out-door and regular life have proved healthful, and it is said that there has not been a day's illness in the family during the summer.

The children attend the public schools, and on the Sabbath are expected to attend service according to the creed of the parents.

The children are taught to be as useful as circumstances permit, the elder assisting in the care of the young children, and in household duties.

The dormitories on the second floor are roomy and comfortable. On each of my visits the whole institution was very clean and well ventilated.

A plentiful supply of water is conveyed to the kitchen and bath-room — and it is said to be freely used by the children.

The dining-table is covered with light enameled cloth, furnished with white earthen ware, and by each chair was an apron, to be worn while eating.

I have twice seen the children preparing for supper, the elder actively assisting the younger, and afterward at the table with good appetites enjoying the very good bread and butter abundantly provided for them.

The children appeared healthful, happy, well fed, and well trained.

The matron is assisted by a cook, laundress and chambermaid.

The boys and girls are put in families when of suitable age: a number have gone west with families who have removed from Orange county; and others have been placed near or in the vicinity of Newburgh. It is said there is "very little difficulty in placing in good families children of proper age."

#### NEWBURGH HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS.

##### *Montgomery Street.*

Visited February 28, and August 13, 1880. Incorporated April 7, 1862; Chap. 146, 1862.

Its objects are stated to be "to secure needful, mental, moral and religious instruction, and as far as practicable, the training of the Christian family."

This orphanage is under the control of 12 managers, whose duty it is "to conduct the business of the society as prescribed by the constitution and by-laws," and of twelve counselors, whose duty it is "to advise the board of managers from time to time in regard to the business of the society."

The home is pleasantly located in the city of Newburgh, and is a substantial three-story and basement brick building with large columns in front, its entrance being a little above the street level.

It commands an extensive river view, is situated in the center of a lot and has accommodations for fifty.

On Feb. 28, 1880, 25 children were resident, in care of Mrs. Russell, the matron; 17 were boys, and 8 girls, from 2 to 15 years of age; 3 were still in the nursery.

South of the broad hall which extends through the building is the office or reception-room, and on the north is the large, cheerful, bright and pleasant school-room with windows on three sides, in which I saw the children busily engaged in their studies under the supervision of Miss Pollock, who has for seven years been a teacher in the institution. The expenses of the school are paid from the public school fund.

The second and third floors are occupied by the nursery and dormitories, clothes, bath and sewing-rooms, all conveniently arranged. The dormitories are neat and pleasant and well ventilated.

The kitchen, store and dining-rooms are in the basement.

Girls under 14, and boys under 10 years of age, who are orphans or deserted by parents, are received till homes can be procured by adoption or otherwise.

The guardianship of the institution is continued over them till, if possible, they become self-protecting and supporting. Annual reports of their condition are furnished to the managers.

The industrial education is not neglected. Boys and girls are each taught the use of the needle, receiving lessons twice each week. Housework and whatever is thought will be of future service to them are taught to such as are of an age to enable them to assist in the work. On Aug. 13, the children numbered 26 boys and 10 girls from 2 to 16 years of age. There were 4 infants in the nursery; 22 had the whooping cough, otherwise all were strong and well.

The house was in good condition — very clean and in perfect order. The children had just returned from a walk.

Since my visit in February, tents had been placed in the play-yard, one for the girls, and one for the boys, and mosquito nets had been put at the windows.

The children looked well, bright and happy, showing by their general appearance that they were well cared for and provided with good nourishing food. The matron's long experience enables her judiciously to vary the daily bill of fare so that each season brings to the little ones its changes of fruit, vegetables and meats.

There is said to be more difficulty in placing out boys than girls. One boy that had been taught to assist in the dining-room had recently found a situation in a private family.

Sabbath school and church are regularly attended. It is said to be the aim to teach self-help — that each child has its individual clothing and play things as its own property, and to which its title is undisputed — thus teaching, in a degree, the rights of property. "Whatever is done is thoroughly done; and whatever is undertaken is completed." These regulations must produce a favorable impression on a child's character, and do much toward making him in the future a respectable, honest and useful citizen. The home has invested securities amounting to \$19,406.87, producing an income that partially defrays the expenses of the institution; the deficiency is met from annual subscriptions and donations.

It is governed by thirty managers, selected from thirteen churches in the city, with an executive committee of twelve; two gentlemen as auditors, twelve as counselors, and seven honorary members.

The standing committees are on finance, home, family, school, dorecas, house and funds.

First Directress, Mrs. Hector Craig.  
 Second Directress, Mrs. M. J. C. Fowler.  
 Treasurer, Mrs. J. N. Weed.  
 Recording Secretary, Mrs. C. J. Howell.  
 Corresponding Secretary, Miss Adelaide Skeel.

ST. LUKE'S HOME AND HOSPITAL  
*of Newburgh and New Windsor.*

Founded in 1874. Incorporated January, 1876, under the general act of April 12, 1848.

Its objects are stated to be "to provide a home for the aged, the indigent, and the infirm, and a hospital for the sick and disabled."

The spiritual interests are under the direction of the Bishop of the Diocese, and the Rectors of the Parishes of Newburgh and New Windsor.

It is governed by a board of thirteen managers, an executive and financial committee, consisting of eight members each, and three trustees.

The medical staff of seven are appointed by the managers, and attend both the home and hospital, without compensation.

Applicants sixty years of age, who have been residents of Newburgh and New Windsor one year, may be received upon payment of an admission fee of one hundred dollars, non-residents two hundred and fifty dollars, for which sum the applicant is entitled to the care and comforts of the home for life.

All property acquired by an inmate, from whatever source derived, becomes the property of the institution, according to the articles of agreement signed upon entering.

The rented premises in which this charity is at present located, consist of two medium-sized two-story and basement brick houses, connected by inner doors, warmed by a furnace and with accommodations for nineteen.

The north building is the Old Ladies' Home, the south is partially occupied by old men, the remainder is adapted to hospital purposes, having five beds, one being an endowed child's cot.

Inmates are expected to assist in household duties, or in the care of others as their strength permits, and are allowed to leave the premises by permission of the matron.

Spirituos liquors are not allowed, except as ordered by the physicians, and administered by the matron.

On February 28, 1886, the inmates numbered fourteen, eleven women and three men, one a hospital patient, all of whom were in an apparently comfortable state.

The rooms were cheerful, neat, and pleasant, of moderate size, and generally with but one occupant. They were neatly furnished and decorated, and all had a home-like appearance.

The reception-room and three apartments for the inmates are on the first floor, while in the basement are the dining-room, kitchen, store-room, and the sitting-room, in which prayers are held on every Friday morning.



No inquiries are made as to an applicant's religious belief, and all are allowed to choose their own spiritual advisers.

At the time of my visit, August 13, thirteen old ladies and three men were inmates. Of these, two were mute sisters, one married couple, four English, seven Irish and five Americans, with ages ranging from 65 to 88.

The hospital department is intended for the sick, needy and infirm, also those suffering from accidents, or requiring surgical aid, patients not being received with chronic or contagious diseases.

Two deaths have occurred since January 1, 1880, one that of a boy, whose shoulder was dislocated in a mill, and who died from lockjaw; the second was received when very ill with pneumonia.

Paying patients are charged one dollar per day or ten dollars per week, for private rooms. Funeral expenses are not paid by the managers.

This institution is supported by annual subscriptions and donations, having a trust fund of \$2,406.

This charity is cared for directly by the matron, Mrs. Alice Raleigh, with one paid assistant. A nurse is also employed when needed.

This charity has, since its organization, been the means of much good. Combining as it does, the care of the helpless, homeless dependent, the aged and the sick, it has thus far supplied the demand for an institution of the character, in the district in which it is located, and has called out the active and practical sympathies of interested friends. Visited February 27, and August 13, 1880.

President, Mrs. C. S. Jenkins.

Vice-President, Mrs. Rufus Emery.

Treasurer, Miss R. M. St. John.

Secretary, Mrs. John L. Rogers.

#### ST. PATRICK'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

##### *Newburgh.*

Incorporated September 29, 1869.

"The particular business and objects of said society are the care, education and maintenance of orphan children."

It is in charge of six sisters of charity, who teach in both school and academy.

Sister Mary Reine, sister servant.

Supported by private contributions, and is under the direct control of the pastor of St. Patrick's parish of Newburgh.

On August 19, the day of my visit, it was stated to me that the orphans formerly received have gone out, and their places have not been filled, because the embarrassed financial condition of the institution has been such as to prevent undertaking the support of any children.

On the same day one young girl was in the asylum whose board was partially paid.

The present accommodations are for fifteen, and if circumstances permit, it is said the asylum will be enlarged.

The price of board is at the rate of six dollars per month, but varies according to the ability of friends to make payments.

### PUTNAM COUNTY POOR-HOUSE.

Visited March 17 and September 3, 1880.

James B. Dykeman, who was appointed keeper of the Putnam County Poor-House, and continued in office since January 1, 1878, died September 3, 1880, after a long illness. During the last year, his son, Willard B. Dykeman, has performed the duties of the office, and is now the acting keeper.

Matron, Mrs. James B. Dykeman.

The Putnam County Poor-House is situated on the county farm of two hundred and forty acres, about two miles from the post-office and village of Carmel.

The poor-house erected more than fifty years ago, having become old and out of repair, on August 12, 1879, the board of supervisors of the county of Putnam resolved upon the erection of a new poor-house, and appointed a building committee, consisting of Messrs. A. Hazen, D. Baker, and James E. Taylor.

A site was selected upon the county farm back of the old building, and upon higher ground.

The new two-story frame building, eighty feet front, with dormer windows in the attic, and a light, large, and well-ventilated cellar under the whole structure, was completed at a cost of \$5,979, furnished and ready for occupation September 10, 1880, having accommodations for eighty.

The keeper's office is in the center of the house, and his residence on the right, near the street.

A hall extending through the building lengthwise is made into three divisions by double doors, intended in the plan to be locked and only opened for purposes of ventilation.

The kitchen is back of the office; the dining-room for men, opposite their sitting-room on the same floor; the other apartments for men are above, and all are reached by a stairway that opens from the third division of the hall and communicates with the large, roomy attic, occupied by them, only one of the two rooms therein being occupied or needed at present.

The apartments on the second floor are for women, with a stairway from the center hall; their dining-room over the kitchen has a dumb-waiter connected directly with it.

The furniture is new, good, strong and appropriate, consisting of iron bedsteads well supplied with good, warm bedding.

The dining tables are of light wood, and the chairs strong and comfortable for the many feeble invalids who need support while eating. Earthen ware is provided for table service, and tin cups for tea and coffee.

The furniture seems to have been selected with judgment and a knowledge of the requirements or necessities of a poor-house.

It was intended that the separation of the house into two departments should be complete, but owing to the fact that the residence of the keeper is situated in one end of the building, it will be difficult to maintain this separation, and it will require constant vigilance on the part of the officers to do so. This matter was brought to the notice of the proper authorities, by a committee of the State Board of Charities, and plans were submitted placing the

keeper's residence in the center of the building, and designed to remedy the evils referred to, but these were not adopted.

The new keeper, in assuming the duties devolving upon him, aims to carry on the government and regulations of this poor-house according to what has been proved to be right and best.

Exercise yards or inclosures are needed, especially for the women, and would render it easier to preserve the discipline of the institution.

One hundred acres of the farm are wood-land. The house is warmed by stoves in which wood is burned. The wood is cut and prepared by the men, who are thus furnished with employment during the year, cutting wood one season for use the next.

On the day of my visit September 3, the inmates numbered thirty-one, of whom eighteen were men; one was epileptic, one on crutches, five insane, one idiot woman twenty-three years of age, and three idiot men; many of the remainder were weak minded.

Six men and two women were said to be able to work a portion of the time; two who had been in the house but a short time were sick and unable to rise, and two young men who had arrived a few days before my visit were ill with chills and fever.

Four deaths occurred since January 1, 1880, and 16 since January 1, 1878.

Interments are made on the farm. The women were all able to go to the table for their food. Of the sick men, one was very low with typhoid fever, and the second doubly afflicted with consumption and a cancer on the arm.

All the inmates of this house, with the exception of the idiots, are said to owe their dependent situation to habits of intemperance.

One blind woman, upon being provided a way to be taken to the eye infirmary for treatment, refused to go, fearing that if restored to sight, she would not be retained in the poor-house.

Since January, 1878, the greatest number of inmates at any one time has been 68.

Tramps average from two to seven per week, and are allowed to remain over night.

The present keeper is considering the matter of stone breaking to give the able-bodied employment.

Water is obtained from a spring, and a well is being sunk so that water can be brought into the house. Water is now carried to the women's rooms.

At present the laundry work is done in the old house, the room in the new building, intended for the purpose, having been converted into a sitting-room for the men.

There are barns and other farm buildings on the place. The old poor-house is to be removed and used for sheds, etc.

Dr. LaMont visits the sick as often as he deems it necessary and receives a salary of \$100 per annum.

With the coming of cold weather, the numbers are increasing, and the new comers seem nearly all suffering from malarial causes.

The inmates of this poor-house were at the dates of my visits mentally or physically incapacitated from engaging in active or continuous employment.



A cook is employed in the house, and one paid assistant has for seven years been connected with the institution.

There are upon the farm one pair of oxen, two horses, and eighteen cows.

In 1880, ten acres of rye, eight of corn, eight of oats, and four of potatoes were cultivated. Thirty-four barrels of potatoes were gathered.

Apples are very abundant.

Rheumatism seemed the prevailing disease. The sick are assigned rooms by themselves.

Occasional Sabbath religious services are held, but there is a difficulty in obtaining any one to officiate.

In summer, three, and in winter two meals are served, each day.

Fried pork is furnished for breakfast and boiled pork for dinner during the summer season, except on Fridays when fish is provided. During the winter season, fresh meat is used instead of salt pork. Tea and coffee are daily provided and butter twice a week; also, every day for dinner a variety of vegetables raised upon the farm, and mush and milk for supper. On the day of my visit I saw the food upon the table, consisting of a stew of pork and potatoes, tea and corn bread. Molasses is furnished for tea and coffee.

The number of years during which some have been inmates of this institution is noteworthy. Two idiotic women respectively forty-five and thirty-eight years, an insane man forty-four years, two men thirty years each and one twenty years.

#### QUEENS COUNTY POOR-HOUSE.

Visited March 6, and July 28, 1880.

Keeper, Joseph E. Firth. Matron, Mrs. Firth.

The Queens County Poor-House is beautifully located near the seashore, on Barnum island, where the county owns about 500 acres of land. The good road, that leads from the main road to the island, is said to be the result of pauper labor. It is six miles from the village of Hempstead.

The railroad station is on the property.

The buildings comprise departments for the poor-house, viz.: Workshop, men's hospital, wash-house, office, small-pox hospital, dead-house, barns and other farm buildings necessary to a convenient and economical management of the institution.

The poor-house is a large white frame building, in which is the keeper's residence, the women's apartments, and an attic and sitting-room, with its stove heater, and an outside entrance for men; only one man occupied the attic on July 8.

The kitchen, bread, store-room and two dining-rooms are in the basement. The women's dining-room is used partially as a cook-room.

A large brick work-shop, near the poor-house, has on the ground floor a men's sitting-room or work-room, with sleeping-rooms, that on the day I saw them were in a very clean condition, as if newly swept and washed. Two stairways are provided, one of which is ordinarily locked. The work-room is warmed by a stove.

The keeper's office is in a frame house west of the work-house, in which are also storage rooms, and a good cellar, containing groceries and meats.

A medium-sized dispensary is in the frame house, built as a men's hospital, with room for 12 patients, under the care of an inmate, who came as a patient, and is now the nurse.

An abundant supply of good spring water is forced some 1,600 feet to tanks, for use in kitchen and wash-house; the latter is also used as a bathing-room by the inmates.

The work of the kitchen and house is performed by the pauper women. The baker is a man who came to the institution destitute, and now makes very good bread.

The paid force consists of the keeper, the assistant keeper at \$45 per month, and a farmer at \$15, the remainder of the work being done by the inmates. Those who are not otherwise employed work on the farm, where labor in throwing up dykes can generally be furnished throughout the year, and the county farm is constantly increasing in value.

On April 6, the inmates numbered 117. Of these thirteen were women, and with the exception of six colored people, all were of foreign birth, and mostly of the order of tramps.

On June 1, 1880, the present keeper entered upon the duties of his office, at which time the number of inmates was small, all who were able to work having found employment on the Long Beach improvement.

Since June 1, there have been three deaths, and at each burial funeral services were held. On June 24, Sabbath services were resumed, Rev. Mr. Boynton officiating. It is intended to have in future regular weekly services in the sitting-room of the brick work-shop.

On July 28, thirty-eight were registered, of whom, ten were women, six colored; fifteen Irish, eleven Germans, seven Americans, four English, one Austrian; two deaf, three paralyzed, two blind, two with wooden limbs, another with only one hand; twelve in the hospital; two cripples, two insane, two imbecile, four with rheumatism, one eighty-four years of age, and a German woman who had attempted to starve herself for fifteen days past.

From this statement it may readily be seen that the inmates could not, at the above date, be relied upon to accomplish much or continuous work. A thrifty and energetic farmer might well become discouraged, but to me, it seemed a much better state of affairs than when the household numbered one hundred and seventeen or three hundred, as it is said to have done in past seasons, many of the number being strong vagrants, or able-bodied men out of employment.

A blind woman, seventeen years an inmate, cares for her own room, sews, knits, and needs no guide.

A strong young man of twenty-four, crippled with inflammatory rheumatism, five years an inmate, will, if some proper apparatus is provided to aid him, probably recover. He is most anxious upon the subject, and says that if such apparatus is provided, he can become self-supporting. The supervisors have his case under consideration.

In the summer of 1880 twenty acres of corn were planted, four of potatoes, nine of rye; eleven acres of grass which produced only ten tons of hay.

Seventy-five acres of land are tillable, including old or pasture land.

There is a good garden where vegetables of the usual varieties are raised, for house and market.

On the place are four cows, two mules, and one horse, one yacht twenty-three feet in length, and two row-boats.

The physician, Dr. James A. Hutcheson, of Pearsalls, visits the institution three times a week, or as often as necessary.

The superintendents of the poor meet at the poor-house once each month; the supervisors once in two months.

In winter two, and in summer three meals are served each day.

Bill of fare: for breakfast, bread and coffee are daily provided; bread and tea for supper.

For dinner, fresh meat, soup and vegetables each Sunday; pork, beans and potatoes three times each week; fish chowder once; cod-fish once; and on one day a variety; bread is furnished at each meal; molasses is used in coffee; and molasses cake is given twice a week.

It is said that the inmates wander from the premises, and are more difficult to control since the railroad and hotel near by have been built.

There are no inclosures or dividing lines between the various departments, and without them it is difficult to maintain order and discipline.

On July 28, the house was in very good order.

The inmates were very helpless, nearly all of them having been brought to their dependent condition by intemperance.

The dining-rooms are provided with benches, and earthen ware is used on the table.

The sheets are not supplied in quantities to allow changes to be made, consequently, when washed, they are usually returned to the beds the same day.

Dependent children are boarded in families and there were no young people or children in the poor-house.

Queens county provides for its chronic insane in a building near Mineola, the county being exempt by the State Board of Charities, from the Willard Asylum act.

## QUEENS COUNTY INSANE ASYLUM.

### *Mineola.*

Dr. David Rogers, keeper; Dr. Philip M. Wood, visiting physician. Visited July 13, 1880.

This institution is located one and a half miles distant from Mineola railroad station, in the building formerly used as the county court-house, utilized in 1877, by altering and furnishing it as an insane asylum, at an expense of about eight thousand dollars.

It is a plain frame building, with an extension on the north, comfortably furnished, and adapted to the purpose for which it is occupied.

Since visited by members of the State Board of Charities (Commissioner Donnelly and the Secretary), 20 beds have been added, making the full number that can be used; as room is needed for the insane poor of the county in future, pay patients must be discharged.



The average number of patients for the past year has been 95.

On July 13, 103 were registered, 53 women and 50 men.

Private patients are charged from \$3 to \$12 per week according to accommodations and are received whenever there is a vacancy.

The two wards have each three attendants; one assistant had died a few days before my visit and her place was not yet filled.

The grounds connected with the asylum include a medium-sized garden, and two exercise yards, each with its shed, as a protection from the sun. Twenty-seven insane are still at the Willard Asylum.

The keeper's residence, the kitchen, wash-room, store, bath and dining-rooms are on the first floor. The building is divided in two departments. Patients are allowed to associate together when at work and in the kitchen.

It is said that the endeavor is made to conduct this institution upon the principles of a well-regulated family.

Restraint is said to be seldom exercised, or necessary.

On July 13, one woman's hands were in a mull, and one, a private patient, is said to be destructive of clothing.

The work of the house is performed by inmates, and the old way of working without machinery is decidedly in favor.

Water is supplied by wells, and working at the pumps is thought to afford good healthful exercise for the patients, as also the use of the pounding barrels in the wash-room. It is said to have been proved that necessary work is more grateful and beneficial than exercise without an object.

The bath-room is on the first floor, and bathing regulations and prescriptions are said to be enforced.

The soap used is made on the premises. Fire escapes have been provided where needed.

There is a head to each department, a keeper, cook, laundress, seamstress, baker and six assistants.

The regulations are said to be such as are best for the patients, to rest the overworked, and provide bodily exercise for those who have had too much mental labor.

The work in the garden and about the grounds is done by the patients.

On July 13, but few patients were in their rooms, nearly all being engaged in house-work, or out in the exercise yards.

One man was in his room suffering with a chill, and a paralytic woman had her food taken to her. All of the others took their meals in the dining-room.

Some change in the water arrangements will perhaps be well on the upper floors.

The whole premises were very clean and in good order. Some patients are said to have been discharged as cured, since the opening of the asylum.

A great need of the institution is additional land for garden and farming purposes.

The exemption is limited to 100 patients, 50 of each sex.

*Flushing* has in the past supported its own poor by contract, at a poor-house owned and furnished by the town.

In January, 1880, the board of supervisors passed a resolution authorizing the overseers of the poor in the town of Flushing to remove the town poor to the county poor-house after March 1, 1880.

*Newtown provides for its own poor.*

In 1879 Mr. McGowen contracted to support the poor of the town at the weekly rate of \$1.90 each, and furnished a house in the village of Winfield for their occupation.

On the day of my visit, April 1, 1880, 1 woman and 9 men were inmates; all were of foreign birth, and 9 belonged to the town and 1 to the county. The inmates expressed themselves as well cared for and contented.

Three meals per day were provided, the food being sent in kettles from the contractor's house near by, where it was prepared.

Beds were of straw with two sheets and warm covering.

All the inmates were old, crippled or sick.

Newtown has two overseers of the poor, who give temporary relief.

Dependent children are boarded in families, and situations obtained as early as practicable.

#### JONES INSTITUTE, *alias* NORTH HEMPSTEAD AND OYSTER BAY POOR-HOUSE.

Visited April 8, July 14, and November 12, 1880.

Situated three miles from Glen Head railroad station, and two miles from East Norwich post-office.

The keeper, Benjamin R. Seaman, was appointed by the trustees of the Jones Fund, and entered upon the duties of his office April 1, 1880.

Matron, Mrs. B. R. Seaman.

The property consists of about fifty acres of land, on which the poor-house occupies a commanding position, and presents a favorable external appearance.

The poor-house is in part supported by the annual income derived from the Jones Fund, the deficiency being paid by the towns of North Hempstead and Oyster Bay, for whose benefit the trust was founded.

The house has two stories and a high basement with its front entrance opening upon a level with the ground. Extending from north to south on the first floor is a hall having on its right the superintendent's office, and that of the trustees on the left. The eastern portion of the building is occupied exclusively by colored people, the western by white men, and the center of the second floor by white women. Of the 39 inmates, 14 were colored, 9 of the inmates were children, who on the preceding day, by a vote at a town meeting, had been directed to be put out to board.

On my visit of July 14, there were 34 inmates, of whom 8 women and 11 men were white, 6 women and 3 men colored, and 1 white and 5 colored children. Of the foregoing, 2 were idiots, 2 epileptics and 4 cripples. Since April 8th, 1 boy had been placed in the House of Refuge and situations had been found for a boy and a girl. The colored children were admitted in the early spring with their parents and it had not yet seemed best to the managers to separate the family. The mother is weak minded and the

father lame. An old lady who was very feeble and infirm was provided with a room by herself and was carefully attended by the matron. One inmate had been resident 10 and another 20 years. Dr. Whitney visits the institution when requested and is paid by the visit.

The condition of the establishment was not satisfactory and changes and improvements appearing desirable, calls were made upon two of the trustees to whom its state was faithfully represented. The resident officers to whom in the past had been delegated the governing authority and superintendence of the institution had proved careless as to its management. On my visit of November 12, 1880, there was an evident improvement in many respects. The inmates numbered 31; of these 18 were white and the remainder colored. Four were children, 5 lame, 3 blind, 2 epileptics and 2 weak minded; 7 were able to work a portion of the time under supervision and 4 were unable to go to their meals. The farm has been the past season cultivated by its occupants with the addition of 15 or 16 days' hired labor in the spring, and about 100 bushels of wheat, 100 of oats, 50 barrels of potatoes and 10 tons of hay were grown and secured. The vegetables raised in the garden are, it is said, consumed in the family.

The provisions supplied for use appeared to be of good quality and of sufficient quantity, except the bread which was not good when I saw it.

A young people's prayer meeting is sometimes held at the home upon the Sabbath. Since July there had been three births and one infant had died.

On November 12, the time of my third visit, a decided improvement was manifest in the cleanliness of the institution. Beds had been renovated and fitted to the bedsteads, and the sheets, beds and bedding were generally clean, whole and apparently in sufficient quantities. Cisterns have been repaired, etc.

The separation into two departments may perhaps be maintained above the basement, by locked doors and the exercise of constant vigilance. The building is so constructed that throughout the basement separation is not practicable. The women perform household labor. The kitchen is the usual passage way to the men's apartments and the dining-room. The white men and women eat together at one time, and afterward the colored men and women eat together. Changes in the interior arrangements of the building are necessary in order to perfect a division, enabling men and women, each to have their own apartment. If the tax payers would visit the institution and see and learn the truth of past careless supervision, there is little doubt that in their own interest, changes would be authorized, tending to insure future good and economical management throughout the institution.

In addition to what has been done, this poor-house needs, first, a change in its structure to complete a separation into two departments; second, rules and regulations for the administration of its affairs, signed by the trustees and others in authority.



## HEMPSTEAD TOWN POOR-HOUSE.

*Queens County.*

Visited April 8, and July 13, 1880.

Keeper, Alfred Mathews; Matron, Mrs. Mathews.

This poor-house is situated about three miles from the village of Hempstead, on a farm of 70 acres purchased by the town with money derived from the sale of a part of Hempstead plains. At the same time a plot of ground was purchased in the cemetery for the burial of the town poor.

The poor-house is a newly painted, white building, completed in 1875, with accommodations for 80; 60 is the greatest number as yet resident at one time.

It is a short distance from the street with a vegetable garden in front.

The office of the overseers of the poor and the keeper's apartments are on the first floor. The two stories above have rooms for inmates. The kitchen, used also as a dining-room, the men's sitting-room, cellar and store-rooms are in the basement.

North of the poor-house is the building formerly occupied. It is well filled and it is said that the old and infirm prefer remaining in it to mounting the stairs, to clean, nice rooms, in the main house and submitting to good order and cleanliness. The poor-house on each of my visits was in a very neat and good condition.

On April 8, 1 woman and 27 men were inmates, and on July 13, 1 woman and 19 men. Of these 15 were Americans, 2 Germans, 3 Irish, 1 colored; 3 paralytics, 1 alien, 3 weak-minded, 1 nearly blind from growing cataracts; 6 were over 80 years of age, 12 had been in the house over five years and all had been in other poor-houses previous to coming to this. The greater number were lodged in the old poor-house.

Three had died since my first visit, April 8, 1880.

It is said that the past records of this town are very incomplete, and previous to 1875 cannot be relied upon.

The inmates are old and feeble, but do all the work on the farm that their strength permits; one man is hired for farm labor. The usual produce is raised. The wheat crop of 1879 furnished flour for the inmates till July, 1880. The yield for 1880, it is said, will not be as great as in the past, because of the unfavorable season.

Three became inmates because weak-minded or idiotic, the remainder from habits of intemperance.

There are no regular religious services at the house. There is a church within one-quarter of a mile. The Rev. Mr. Miller attends burials if requested.

Dr. Rhame is the present visiting physician.

On July 13, none were prevented from going to their meals because of illness, although many or the majority were suffering from chronic diseases incident to old age.

The bread was good; on one of my visits the supper table was prepared with bread and butter, mush and milk, and tea upon it, seemingly very good.

The town has two overseers of the poor who administer out-door relief, and have charge of dependent children, boarding them in families.

### RICHMOND COUNTY POOR-HOUSE.

Visited March 5, and July 27, 1880.

Keeper, Thomas McCormack; Matron, Mrs. McCormack.

The poor of Richmond county were generally boarded in families until 1830, when the present farm was purchased, consisting of 100 acres of land at a cost of \$3,000, to which 19 acres have since been added with the intention of utilizing pauper labor.

The county farm is located  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles from West New Brighton, and has upon it buildings, suitable in size and variety, for the convenience of its business arrangements. Many of them, since my visit in March, had been whitened, and, surrounded as nearly all are with white fences, the poor-house settlement presented a very neat and pleasant appearance.

The buildings on the farm are a poor-house keeper's dwelling, store-house, hospital for men, laundry, barns, shed and stable, wagon and ice-house, pest and dead-house.

The keeper's residence is a large, conveniently arranged, and pleasant white frame dwelling with green blinds, containing the superintendent's office and store-rooms.

The county poor-house is a three-story building with brick and stone extensions, with all above the basement divided into two apartments. That for women is subdivided into nursery, sewing and other apartments, the largest of which, containing ten beds, is occupied as a hospital room for women, under the supervision of an assistant matron.

Besides the kitchen, store-room, dining-room and bakery in the basement there are rooms for men, in one of which are two cells with barred fronts, where insane men are at times confined. The condition of these cells, at the time of my visit in July, was being somewhat improved by drains, that were in process of construction.

There are two cells in which insane women are confined, when it is thought necessary, located upon the second floor; these are small and without ventilation. On the morning of July 27, the women had been removed from each, and when I saw them they were unoccupied.

Of the 10 women in the hospital-room, 2 were feeble and confined to their beds, one was lame, one insane, one had a cancer in the eye, and another was rheumatic.

An inmate of eighteen years had been blind twenty-seven years. I saw only 2 apparently strong, well young women, each with a young child.

The hospital for men is in a two-story frame house opening from the keeper's grounds, back of the poor-house, having accommodations for 10, and is in charge of a man nurse, who came as a patient.

On July 27, there were 4 occupants, of whom 2 were convalescent, 1 demented and the fourth, who had some six weeks previously been thrown and dragged by a horse, was suffering with a broken limb.

In the men's department of the poor-house were 2 lame and 1

sick man. The remainder of the occupants were either at work in the field or sitting in the open air.

The whole house was clean and in order, and, with the exception of the unoccupied cells for insane men and women, was well ventilated.

The iron bedsteads were well provided with beds and bedding, each bed having two sheets.

The only dining-room is in the basement conveniently near the kitchen. In it, I saw 35 men and 5 women at their dinner.

The remainder of the 81 inmates were unable to go to the table, and were said to be supplied with food from the keeper's house, except on days when all were provided with fresh meat soup. Benches are used in the dining-room and tinware on the table.

Sabbath exercises, conducted by four ladies and gentlemen from the neighborhood, are frequently held in the dining-room.

In a field at a suitable distance is an unoccupied pest-house, with basement cells that are said, in times past, to have been used as places of solitary confinement.

The wash-room is on the ground floor of a small two-story frame building, the second floor being used as a storage-room, and there is a coal cellar in the basement.

The storage apartment house is in part occupied by an insane man, who takes care of the poultry and flowers, but has little or no idea of order or neatness.

On the 27th of July, 81 inmates were registered, of whom 49 were men, and 4 children under 2 years of age, 11 insane men, and 13 insane women. Of the insane, 12 were Americans, 7 Irish, 2 Germans, 2 French, and 1 Dane; 5 insane women and 4 men were natives of Richmond county, 1 was epileptic insane, and 2 were idiotic.

The keeper had left in the early morning to convey 5 insane inmates — 3 women and 2 men — to the Hudson River State Hospital. In his absence I was afforded every required opportunity to see the institution and its inmates by Mrs. McCormack.

The insane receive the same treatment as the sane, and assist in doing the work of the house and farm. At the time of my visit it was stated, that there was not one strong man able to do continuous labor in the poor-house.

The paid officers are keeper, matron, assistant matron, and a farmer. The keeper has held the office 10 years.

Dr. Millsbaugh visits the poor-house twice each week, and has an office and medicines at the house, and is paid for his services.

With the exception of two rooms in which there are stoves, the house is warmed by 3 furnaces, the outside buildings by stoves and drums, and all are lighted by kerosene.

Dependent children are boarded in families. None above 2 years of age were in the poor-house on July 27.

Upon the farm are 8 head of cattle, besides 1 yoke of oxen and 3 horses.

The land is said to produce abundantly, having been drained and improved, so that what a few years since was untilled, is now changed into fertile fields. Owing to the dry season the hay crop of this year has been light. The farm is said to "pay well if one takes into consideration the fact that vegetables are raised upon it sufficient to supply the



institution, while at the same time it furnishes healthful exercise and employment for both body and mind of those who can engage in work during the week."

Water is supplied by a cistern and a tank ; the bathing facilities are good and the regulations for their use are said to be enforced.

For breakfast, coffee and bread are provided, and at supper, mush and milk four nights, and bread and tea the remaining three nights of the week. At dinner, fresh meat soup is served twice each week, pork, cabbage, and potatoes twice, fish twice, corn beef and cabbage once. Bread, potatoes and at times other vegetables are served at each meal.

Newspapers and reading matter are furnished the inmates by visitors.

### NURSERY AND CHILD'S HOSPITAL.

#### *Staten Island.*

Visited March 5, 1880.

This institution is beautifully located near West New Brighton, and has accommodations for about 500.

It is conducted on the cottage or family system, with one central dining-room.

With resident lady physicians, and superintendents, a sanitarium, a good healthful location, and surroundings, the institution has been in successful operation for ten years.

It is the country branch of the Nursery and Child's Hospital of New York city, by which it is managed and supported.

### THE SAILORS' SNUG HARBOR.

#### *Staten Island.*

Is entirely self-sustaining, deriving a very large annual income from its invested property.

### THE MARINERS' FAMILY ASYLUM.

#### *Staten Island.*

Founded in 1831. Is not self-sustaining and is a New York city institution, located on Staten Island.

The Home for Destitute Children of Seamen is located upon the premises of the Sailors' Snug Harbor, but is an independent institution, founded in 1846, by officers in New York city, and is mainly supported by annual subscriptions and donations, having only a small invested fund.

### S. R. SMITH INFIRMARY.

#### *Edgewater, Staten Island.*

Incorporated April 28, 1869, under the general act of April, 1848, for the "particular business and objects, to afford succor to the victims of sudden accident, and medical relief among those whose circumstances deprive them of means of proper treatment in their own homes, and for that purpose to establish and maintain a hospital or

infirmary for the reception and treatment of such cases and persons."

It was originated by the medical society of Richmond county in 1861, "for the care of the sick poor and reception of casualties."

Pleasantly located in the village of Edgewater, its property consists of a village lot on which is a medium-sized two-story frame building whose accommodations for the reception of patients have, the past year, been increased by additions and alterations from a capacity of 10 to 19 patients.

The average number of patients is nine.

The Infirmary is under the care and supervision of Mrs. Poppel, who has for ten years past been the resident matron of the institution, and is assisted by two nurses.

It is partially supported by an income derived from its invested fund of \$37,250, that defrays about one-half of the expenses of the institution, the deficiency being met by annual subscriptions, donations and other sources.

The weekly basket received, containing delicacies for the sick, contributes not only to the comfort of the patients but to an economical and frugal management of this charity.

It is unsectarian, receiving those patients who are unable to pay, free from any charge and without regard to nationality, faith or sex.

Its medical board of physicians and surgeons visit, each in his appointed time daily and gratuitously throughout the year; a visit is daily made by both physician and surgeon who, as one of their duties, regulate the diet of the inmates.

Visited July 27, 1880, at which date four patients were resident, of whom one woman and a boy were convalescent, and expecting to leave on the following day. One man in the upper ward was quite sick, another in the ward on the first floor had been an inmate four weeks, having been brought to the infirmary with a broken limb.

This institution was in all its departments of household and wards for the sick, clean and in good order. The apartments had a cheerful aspect, the care of the sick and provisions for their welfare seemed ample and kind.

The quiet comfort of the place was attractive. The patients if able are expected to assist the matron under direction.

It is governed by twelve trustees and officers chosen from their number, assisted by the Ladies' Auxiliary Association whose board of visitors delegate members of their number, to daily visit and supervise both the domestic and the hospital departments.

President, G. S. Schofield.

Treasurer, T. M. Brainard.

Secretary, E. C. Bridgman.

Ladies' Auxiliary Association — President, Mrs. J. A. Appleton.

Surgeons — William Anderson, M. D.; John L. Feeny, M. D.; Frank Anderson, M. D.

Physicians — T. M. Walser, M. D.; J. J. Van Rensselaer, M. D.; F. E. Clark, M. D.

## ROCKLAND COUNTY POOR-HOUSE.

Visited March 4, and July 8, 1880.

Located at Mechanicsville, three and one-half miles from Spring Valley railroad station. The poor-house property consists of 44 acres of land, on which are two frame houses painted light yellow, an unused brick building of three stories, completed in 1879, intended for an asylum for the chronic insane of the county, but is unoccupied. Barns, and other necessary farm buildings all present a good appearance.

The keeper's office is in the north building that is otherwise occupied by men, their sitting-room being on the first floor, and the apartment for hospital purposes on the second.

The halls extend through the building, and with the ventilators over the doors, insure a good circulation of air.

The first floor of the south building is occupied by the keeper, the remainder by women. The nursery is on the second floor, and also the old ladies' dining-room, arranged since my visit of March 4, by the present matron, for those women who are too infirm to go to the regular dining-room in the basement. The third floor is also occupied by women, whose rooms were clean and pleasant.

The division of this poor-house into two departments appears to be carried out as well by the keeper as the construction will permit, the buildings and grounds not having been originally arranged with this object in view.

The kitchen is in the basement; on one side is the women's dining-room, on the other the men's; the store and vegetable cellars extend under both houses.

West of the poor-house, and connected with it by a covered passageway, is the brick building intended for an insane asylum.

The insane of the county number about 20. It was stated that the people of the county propose erecting a new keeper's house, and converting the brick building into a poor-house. A few of the rooms are now used for storage purposes, and the good supply of provisions would indicate that the inmates of this poor-house are well fed. Semi-monthly religious services conducted by clergymen of the neighborhood are held in the lower hall.

On March 4, the inmates numbered 52. During the past winter there had been 70.

About 20 insane are at the State asylums. Six children are placed at the House of the Good Shepherd, and 20 in families.

The county superintendent visits the poor-house each Monday.

Dr. Lockwood visits the institution twice during each week, and more frequently if his services are required.

The housework is mainly done by the inmates, but occasionally a cook is hired. It is said that care is taken to provide a change of diet. Vegetables for the table are nearly all raised upon the farm.

A Methodist church is very near, and all who desire can attend its services.

Newspapers are occasionally brought by visitors, and are frequently forwarded from news offices.



The keeper, Sampson Marks, and the matron, Mrs. Marks, were appointed April, 1879.

To intemperance, may be ascribed the poverty and dependence of a large portion of both the male and the female inmates of the poor-house.

The building is warmed by stoves, and lighted by kerosene.

On July 8, 1880, there were 37 occupants, including 20 men, 1 colored man, 5 Irish, 2 Germans, 6 English, 6 insane, 1 blind man, 60 years of age, 1 idiotic and 1 dumb, 1 epileptic man and 1 epileptic woman.

One insane man, a native of the county, has been an inmate 40 years, 2 women 18, and one 24 years; 5 are cripples.

Since January 1, 1880, 5 have died, who were buried in a grave-yard upon the farm.

The inmates upon the day of my visit were all old, infirm, feeble or idiotic.

There were no children or young persons in the institution.

On each of my visits, the house in all its departments was clean, and in good order.

Water is supplied by cisterns and wells. The wash-house is south of the brick asylum, and the vegetable gardens south of the keeper's house.

The farm is said to be productive and well cultivated. One man is hired for 6 months, and he, with the assistance afforded by the men who can do some work, cultivates the farm. This season only 2 or 3 inmates were said to be able to work at all, and they but a short time, without rest; none were able to perform continuous labor.

Last year tobacco was raised, and in tilling this crop the men, it is said, have been willing workers. This year the drouth killed the most of the young plants.

The county of Rockland has been in the past liberal in its supply of tobacco and laudanum. The last report shows that the quantity of laudanum furnished by the present keeper was less than half the amount consumed the year before, and I am told that still less is being given out the present year.

The milk and butter from five cows are used in the house.

Out-door relief is furnished by the superintendent.

An unknown, insane man, found more than 5 years ago, returned last spring from a State insane asylum, remains speechless and is still unknown.

Tramps are said to be provided with lodging but no breakfast, unless for two hours' work in wood-sawing, cutting corn-stalks or digging.

This poor-house occupies a commanding position and is healthfully located.

## THE HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

### *Rockland County, N. Y.*

Right Rev. Horatio Potter, Bishop of New York, visitor.

President, Rev. E. Gay.

Vice-Presidents, Rev. C. B. Wyatt, D.D., Rev. Thos. Gallaudet, D.D., Rev. R. S. Mansfield.

Secretary, N. A. Garrison, M. D.  
 Treasurer, Augustus Bleecker.  
 Curator, Elizur Ward.

This charity is located on the western bank of the Hudson river, one-quarter of a mile from Tompkins Cove P. O. and landing, and two and a half from Stony Point railroad station. Incorporated 1870. Originated in 1866, from the necessity of providing a home for orphans in the parish of the Rev. Mr. Gay, then rector at Haverstraw. The need of such a home being clearly demonstrated, the Rev. Mr. Gay and wife dedicated themselves to the work of caring for destitute and orphan children, occupying at first a rented house at Haverstraw, then at Garnerville. In 1871, a State appropriation of \$2,000, and in 1872, one of \$15,000, permitted the purchase of 90 acres of wild land and the household was removed to its present situation.

On this property are the main dwelling-house, the bee-hive, hospital, riverside cottage, barns and farm buildings. The house is a plain, pleasant, white frame building, 100 feet in length, two stories high, fronting the river and in the midst of beautiful scenery. Here reside Mr. and Mrs. Gay, the superintendents of the place and of its varied interests.

The boys' dormitories are on the upper floor, while on the first floor are the reading or family-room, wash-rooms, etc.

The kitchen, dining and store-rooms are in the basement.

The bee-hive is occupied by girls, and is under the matron's and teachers' supervision.

The chapel in which Sabbath services are held is on the first floor, and is so arranged that doors can be closed before the chancel, when in use as a school-room during the week.

A parlor and sleeping-rooms for the girls are above, in which the neat arrangements and playthings prove the kind indulgence of friends.

The object of this charity is to provide a home in the country for orphan and destitute children, where they may be fitted for life's duties in a family, leaving it when self-supporting.

The discipline and government are said to be those of a well-ordered family circle and are administered by Mr. and Mrs. Gay who attend to the spiritual as well as industrial and educational departments.

The girls do the house-work, and by a regular rotation of duties, each is said to become a skilled worker, thoroughly instructed in sewing, washing, ironing, cooking, baking, and to be clean and neat in the performance of her duties. I found the bread made by a young girl very good.

The boys are said to be taught practical farming and gardening in all their branches, blasting rocks, laying stone walls, making roads and drains, sowing and reaping, planting and harvesting. A road built by the boys, winds in front of the house to the shore and a large and neatly-kept vegetable garden slopes to the river.

Near the gateway is a brick memorial hospital completed in 1873, built by Mrs. Dabney at a cost of about \$4,000. With beds for 12 it has the most approved appliances for hospital purposes, and is supplied with pure spring water.

Riverside cottage is in part a home for the gardener and his family, and the remainder a summer retreat for invalids sent and maintained by church parishes in New York city. In 1879 all the rooms were occupied, and all are engaged for the summer of 1880.

A ladies' association in New York, and the auxiliary societies of Westchester and Anandale assist in providing money and clothing.

The corner-stone for the church of the "Holy Child Jesus" was laid in 1872. The building fund now amounts to \$1,700.

Destitute children are received from any locality at a cost of \$130 per year, and yet its resources are limited, and applications from beneficiaries have been refused.

A bequest of \$10,000 from Mr. Peter Van Schaick becomes available this fall, and an effort will be made to obtain enough contributions in addition to pay the debt on the property, and to make necessary repairs.

The house with all belonging to it is plain and yet comfortable.

Mr. Gay was appointed missionary of the mountain district by the bishop of the diocese for which he receives a salary of \$200 per year, and has no other compensation.

This charity is supported by money received in payment of the board of the county children, placed in it by the superintendents of the poor and by collections in churches and gifts.

On July 10, 1880, of 36 inmates 6 were supported by the county of Rockland at the rate of \$1.50 per week.

The house of the Good Shepherd will accommodate 80.

There is no limit as to age of admission nor a fixed time for leaving.

It is conducted as a "home," a child coming to it and leaving it when fitted for self-support, and returning in after years as on a visit to a homestead or family.

## THE TEACHERS' REST

### *Tompkins Cove.*

Established 1876. Incorporated 1880.

Trustees—Mr. H. H. Houston, Rev. E. Gay, Mr. G. S. Wood, Dr. John Forsyth, Mr. T. T. Buckley, Mr. Thos. F. Harrison. Lady Managers—Mrs. C. Bradford, Mrs. E. Gay, Mrs. E. M. Marchant, Miss A. B. Berard, Miss E. Clement.

The "Rest" is pleasantly located at Tompkins Cove, one-quarter of a mile from the steamboat landing and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  from the railroad station at Stony Point. Its grounds join those of the house of the Good Shepherd.

The property consists of nearly 1 acre of land on which is an attractive comfortable cottage intended to accommodate 20 persons.

The rooms are pleasant, cozy looking, neatly and tastefully furnished.

The object of this charity is to furnish a quiet, pleasant "Rest" during vacation to teachers out of employment, or who need its home-like comforts and surroundings.

It is presided over by Mrs. Marchant, who gratuitously gives her time and services to the work, and to whom "it is a labor of love."

It is limited to teachers, without inquiry as to creed or locality, and



is supported by receipts for board and donations, the price of board varying according to the ability of the applicant.

In 1876, a teachers' league was organized for the purpose of paying the lien on the property, afterward to provide a fund to assist invalid teachers in paying for their board. Memberships in the league are charged 50 cents initiation fee and annual payments of \$2.00.

As yet the house has only been open from spring to fall. It is now proposed to make it a home as well as a rest and to occupy it throughout the year "for teachers destitute of homes or who have outlived their usefulness."

The debt on January, 1880, amounted to \$3,558.57. When this is paid the managers propose to found a branch house in New York for governesses.

Partially self-supporting as it now is, the moderate charges are not its greatest beneficence.

It is the rest, the quiet and peaceful surroundings, the freedom from care, the cheerful cordial welcome so grateful to the heart of the desolate, homeless one that makes it in reality "a Rest."

#### SUFFOLK COUNTY POOR-HOUSE.

Visited April 7, and July 15, 1880.

Keeper, Holmes Sweezey. Matron, Mrs. Sweezey.

The county farm at Yaphank, purchased in 1870, at a cost of \$12,000, has been brought to a high state of cultivation.

The large frame poor-house, erected in 1871, is 125 feet front, having a center building of three stories and a basement well painted, and in good repair, located near the Yaphank station, having accommodations for 250.

The poor-house has two separate departments, having distinct stairways, outside entrances, dining-rooms, and exercise yards respectively for men and women.

The keeper's residence is in the center of the building, the kitchen and laundry directly back.

The bathing-room, barber shop, and dispensary are conveniently near the old men's apartments.

The boilers, engine, coal cellar, dyeing and storage rooms, shoe and other shops, where men work at their trades, are in the basement, also a brick floored sitting-room for men.

The drainage is now perfect. The county in 1879 purchased land in order to accomplish this object.

The supply of water is ample, consisting of a spring well in the basement, with 2 feet of unfailing water, and 3 large tanks in the attic, each with a capacity of 3,000 gallons.

Cools of hose are laid in convenient places, and are said to be always in readiness for use.

During the past year there have been no prevailing fevers or contagious diseases.

The health of the inmates has been considered good, although the majority are chronic invalids.

The steam cooking and heating apparatus are of the best kinds, and in perfect order.

The farm in charge of the keeper, and his assistant, Mr. Wheeler, is well cultivated, with fertile fields and well-ordered grounds.

In 1819, 700 bushels of wheat were raised, ground into flour at a neighboring mill, at a rate of 30 bushels per week, and made into very good bread by a Chinaman who entered the house destitute, and has become the baker of the establishment.

The large barns, well filled with hay and grain; the airy vegetable cellars underneath; the nice farm-horses; fine looking cows in their sheds; pigs in their pens, and Muscovy ducks wandering about, give the place an appearance of prosperity, not always seen in poor-house surroundings.

Two miles of good road have been built around the farm by the inmates, who are said to perform all the labor they are able to do.

County papers are taken and distributed, also suitable books circulated from the library. The Bible Society recently contributed 50 Bibles in fair type, that have been distributed, and I saw several women reading them.

Religious services are held in the men's dining-room twice each month by the Rev. Mr. Lee of Yaphank, who also officiates at the burial of the dead.

In 1879, the supervisors fixed the chaplain's annual salary at \$100.

On July 15, the day of my second visit, 139 were registered; of these 72 were white men, and 4 colored, 59 white women and 4 colored; 2 blind, 2 epileptic, 4 mutes, 28 insane men, 30 insane women, 10 demented, 46 of foreign birth, 1 pair mulatto twins and 1 foundling, 1 under one year of age, 1 idiotic boy and an idiotic girl not 16 years old.

Twenty men, nearly all insane, were at work in the field; 20 inmates were unable to go from their rooms to the dining-room; 9 have died since January 1, 1880.

The paid officers consist of keeper, assistant-keeper, engineer, farmer, matron, assistant-matron, and the first attendant.

The engineer receives \$25 per month, and in addition to his regular duties, has supervision of the rooms of the insane men, and attends to the bedding.

The farmer and colored cook, each receive \$30 per month.

The assistants and laborers who are inmates, do what is required of them under direction, and are said to work as cheerfully and pleasantly as many who are more fortunately situated.

After my visit in April, the men's dining-room had been painted by an inmate and on July 15, it was in use, and dinner was served in my presence for 58. The bread was very nice. The beef pot-pie, good, nutritious and plentiful. Tea is furnished twice, and coffee once each day. Vegetables are raised on the farm for the family, and are said to be abundantly used. Benches are used for seats in the dining-room, and earthen plates and tin cups for the table.

A paralyzed man has for two years been helpless; a man of Indian descent, one hundred and four years of age, a native of the island, was unable to rise, and his wife, in another room, was in the same feeble condition. A recently admitted Englishman was in a critical state.

An energetic blind man of seventy was busily occupied in making skewers to sell; he is able to care for his own share of the room, walks about and is apparently cheerful and happy, as inmates who occupy their time usually are.

A vagrant had been received at five in the morning, having been properly committed, who has previously enjoyed the comforts of this poor-house.

The house was neat and clean, the rooms pleasant, and a feeling of content and satisfaction was expressed to me by the aged women.

Children are removed to the Children's Home supported by the county, at two years of age. Dependent young inmates are said to be carefully put in positions to be self-supporting, removed from their former surroundings and temptations, and a kindly care extended to them by the officers and superintendents.

### THE INSANE.

The chronic insane of Suffolk county are cared for at the Suffolk County Poor-House, the county having been exempted by the State Board of Charities from the Willard Asylum act.

In 1877 a wing was built upon the east of the poor-house with accommodations for 20 insane women, having 2 wards, one above the other, a nice dining-room, and in all respects well adapted to the use for which it was designed.

The rooms in each ward were very neat and clean; since my first visit in April, the defect in the ventilation of the lower ward had been remedied.

There was not any case of restraint in these wards. The first attendant, Miss Swezey, stated to me that nothing more had so far been necessary for her to do than to close the room doors, that the patients were kind and friendly to each other. The nurse occupied a room in the second ward. On the 15th there was one patient whose board was paid. The ward dining-room table appeared to be prepared with reference to individual wants, and the patients were as quiet and orderly while at their dinner as if not insane.

The old hall occupied by 14 insane women was in need of more convenient bathing arrangements, and the keeper stated to me that he was then writing to the superintendents asking permission to have a bath-tub placed in one of the rooms.

The occupants of this hall were mostly difficult and troublesome cases of insanity, in charge of the assistant matron and two attendants, themselves inmates of the poor-house. In this hall there was but one case of restraint, and that a woman with a camisole on, to prevent her destroying her clothing; 5 were in their rooms, 1, a colored woman standing by a window when I saw her; one who had kept her bed thirty years, was brought from a town poor-house in 1871, another had been confined to her bed so long that she could not stand erect, and had two rooms appropriated to her use. Another, was much improved in health since my last visit, and one was lying in her bed on the floor.

The remainder of the occupants of the rooms on this floor were in the exercise yards where I saw them; among the number was a deaf mute epileptic girl, under sixteen years of age, and an unknown woman found some years since wandering in a swamp in the county, who cannot be traced out.

In the basement beyond the men's sitting-room is a row of eight



rooms or cells, each occupied by insane men. Each room has a small outside window and a brick floor.

In January, 1880, the board of supervisors passed a resolution authorizing the superintendents of the poor to fit up rooms in an unused attic and to abandon the use of the basement cells, whenever in their judgment it was thought best, but they neglected to make any appropriation for the purpose, so that the plan could not be carried out, and nothing had been done.

These basement rooms were, with the exception of two, unoccupied upon the 15th of July, most of the men being in the exercise yards. A demented young man was in his room, and is said never to leave it.

Sitting on a bench in the outside room was a man who had been returned from Auburn at the expiration of his term, as insane, whose hands were in irons or hand-cuffs, from which they were only released while eating; by his side was a man with one hand in a strap to prevent his destroying his clothing, and it is said to be at times necessary to confine another at night.

Upon October 9, James Gilooly, the insane convict, murdered Frank Wiseman, a lunatic at the poor-house. On the trial the judge ordered his removal to the Willard Asylum.

The exercise yards open from the house, and are provided with sheds as shelter from sun and rain. Mild cases of insanity are distributed through the poor-house rooms at the discretion of the keeper.

The patients are taken out for exercise by the first attendant, when the weather permits. The sick and insane are in care of Dr. Baker, who resides near, and seems to devote much time and attention to them, visiting them almost daily.

Occupation is here considered one of the greatest curative powers, quieting the nerves and producing sleep. Since the chronic insane have been cared for at this county asylum, many are said to have been restored to reason and returned to friends.

On December 20, 1880, I visited the Suffolk County Poor-House. The alterations and repairs authorized by the board of supervisors last winter are nearly completed, and consist of a central hall with eight rooms on each side fitted up in an unused attic having both north and south outside windows, one of which is to be arranged as a fire escape. New well-oiled floors have been laid in the old hall occupied by insane women, bath-rooms have been placed in both old and new halls, heating apparatus and hose are in each. The work is expected to be completed about January 1, 1881, when the insane men from the basement will be removed into the rooms on the new hall, and the use of the basement cells abandoned. The insane men are in care of the engineer.

#### CHILDREN'S HOME.

Visited April 7, and July 15, 1880.

Is near the railroad station at Yaphank, in a house provided by the superintendents of the poor for the children in care of the county of Suffolk.

It is in charge of a matron, Mrs. Wheeler, and is entirely distinct

from alms-house management, the supplies only being furnished by the superintendents.

Children attend the public school when of a suitable age. On April 7, 9 were in the Home; on July 15, there were 9 county children from 2 to 9 years of age, 6 white boys and 1 colored girl, 8 of American descent and 1 of German.

On each of my visits the children appeared healthy, active, well fed, with life and animation, obedient and amiable.

The house and surroundings were very comfortable, and appropriate for the object to which they are devoted.

## ST. JOHN LAND.

### *Smithtown.*

Founded by the Rev. Dr. W. A. Muhlenberg, and was incorporated in 1870.

It is an industrial school and home, combining a variety of objects under one central government.

Its property consists of over 400 acres of land, on which more than \$100,000 has been expended in the erection of suitable buildings for the many distinctive purposes designed to be accomplished in the founding of this charity.

Its institutions are an old man's home, boys' home, home for crippled children, a printing establishment, etc.

Children are trained into lives of usefulness. Gardening, farming, printing and other branches of industry are practically taught. Homes are provided for persons of moderate means. A church is established, and all is under the government of trustees, and the auspices of the Protestant Episcopal church. It is essentially a New York city charitable institution located in Suffolk county.

## WESTCHESTER COUNTY POOR-HOUSE.

Visited February 9 and June 16, 1880. This county poor-house is equally distant from the villages of Tarrytown and White Plains.

The county property consists of 160 acres of land, through which the railroad company owns 90 feet in width, and about three-quarters of a mile in length.

Ninety acres of the land are tillable and said to be very productive, the remainder being wood-land.

The extensive poor-house erected 53 years since is a very substantial looking, large stone building, with broad halls, deep windows, ceilings of good height, and pleasant, cheerful rooms. Between it and the street there is a fine grove of trees, and a neatly-kept drive and lawn.

Ascending a few steps to the door opening upon the piazza one enters the hall, upon the right of which is the keeper's office, also used as a reception room, very well furnished.

Upon the left are the two offices where the three superintendents of the poor meet on Mondays to transact business relating to the county poor, and one of them contains the safe with records and books. Opening from the front office is a telegraph station.

Passing through the double doors, that divide the front and back halls, one enters the poor-house domain.

One stair case is the only communicating way from the attic to the basement, in which upon one side of the hall is the dining-room for men, and directly opposite that for women.

The dining-room tables are of white pine, upon which white earthen ware is used.

Upon the right side of the hall, in the second story, are the apartments for the old ladies, and on the left side and in the attic above are rooms for men.

In 1871, an addition was built north of the main house and connected with it.

In the basement of this addition is the cooking apparatus, the bakery with its large loaves of very good bread, and convenient store-rooms. Over all is the chapel room, where services are held each Sabbath day by the Rev. Israel Green.

The store-rooms for the finer sorts of merchandise are on the upper floor.

East of the main building and opening from and on a line with it, is the hospital, with the women's wards, under the control of one paid nurse, and in a bed, at the north side of one of the wards, was a mother with an infant a few days old.

East of these hospital-rooms, and separated from them, is the men's hospital, with four wards, in charge of a nurse, who receives \$25 per month.

There are bath-tubs in the open hall of each floor. A dispensary is near the door.

Dr. Richard Coutant visits the institution daily, and had in the hospital several difficult cases; one man with a fractured limb, who had been there nearly six months, and a victim of a gasoline explosion, brought to the hospital March 16, and still helpless from his burns.

Beyond is the almost unused insane asylum, with its barred windows and grated dark cells. On February 9, I saw an insane man temporarily confined in one of these cells, while papers were being made out for his removal to the Hudson River State Hospital, on the following day, and on June 16, I saw a man confined in one of them for disobedience.

The chronic insane are now provided for at the Willard Asylum, and acute cases at the Hudson River State Hospital. The small south rooms upon the second floor were occupied by 3 colored persons, one a little child.

On June 16, the first of these rooms was occupied by an insane woman from Peekskill, who was to be taken to the Hudson River State Hospital on the following day, and at the same time, 17 chronic insane were to be transferred from the latter hospital to the Willard Asylum; 4 idiots, and 1 inebriate were on the lower floor, and had the use of an exercise yard, in which all were gathered on my second visit.

The imbecility of a man forty-four years of age said to result from an attack of the scarlet fever, when five years old. From that time until her death, his mother had taken care of him, and in 1879 he became a county charge. In constant motion, he eats, sleeps, and basks in the sunshine.

It was said, that intemperate habits had been the first cause of nine-



tenths of both men and women becoming paupers, and poor-house inmates. Among the number are educated men, who would have been welcomed into homes, but for intemperate habits.

Water is brought from a reservoir three-quarters of a mile distant, and supplies the house and hall bath-tubs, as well as the three hydrants in the yard, which are said always to be in repair, and from which in case of fire, water could be thrown over the buildings. There are also wells of good water. Inmates often prefer to bring water for their own use, from the saw-mill river, that bounds the grounds on the south, and winds through the farm.

Beyond the stone poor-house and its additions of hospital and asylum, is a small frame house occupied by colored men, whose accommodations were not equal to the other parts of the establishment. The blacksmith's shop and soap-house are near. By the stream is the wash-house, of which the upper part was formerly used as a lodging-house for tramps. It is said that tramps are not now received, but that this is a favorite lodge for men, who, devoted to tobacco chewing, etc., prefer it to the clean and orderly main house.

This tramp house was, upon the days of my visits, in a very good condition.

A light, well-ventilated and neat cellar extends under the whole poor-house structure.

The cool dairy-room is in one of its divisions, where the milk of twelve cows is cared for, and upon the shelves and tables was very nice new-made butter. The cellars contain the stores of meat, as many as 28,000 lbs. of pork being purchased at one time, and packed and cured by the keeper for the use of the household. Mr. Fisher, the keeper, and Mrs. Fisher, the matron, have been in charge since April, 1879, receiving a yearly salary of \$1,000.

The county owns and provides every thing. On June 16, there were in the institution 11 infants under one year of age.

On June 16, 160 children were being boarded at the protectory, and 49 at the temporary home for Protestant children of the county at Pleasantville.

Children of Catholic parentage, between 2 and 6 years of age, are placed in St. Joseph's Home, Peekskill.

During the past year, new floors have been laid in the attic, and a new stairway replaces the old. The dining-room in the basement had been painted and repaired, the work having been done by an inmate.

This poor-house, on each of my visits, was found clean and in good order.

One person, eighty years of age, had been an inmate eighteen years.

The usual farm produce is raised, and in the summer of 1880, the vegetable garden was cultivated without paid help.

The whole place has the appearance of a prosperous, well-ordered farm.

Suitable out-buildings are provided. Houses, barns and sheds were apparently in good repair.

On June 16, the book-keeper was absent, and I could not obtain the definite statistics of the institution that were locked in the safe.

## ST. PATRICK'S MALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

*Boland Farm.*

A Roman Catholic Asylum, or industrial school for boys, under the charge of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, and is a branch of the Fifth Avenue Asylum, New York city.

Brother Elias of M. Director, having several assistants in care of the institution and farm.

It is located two miles north of Peekskill. The property consists of 240 acres of land, on which is a dwelling-house, and a large brick asylum, erected in 1876, with accommodations for 130.

Its object is stated to be "to receive the older orphan boys, as they become of suitable age, from the New York Asylum, to teach them to work, aid them in the formation of industrious habits, and prepare them to become useful, self-supporting citizens."

It is supported by private charity, and collections in churches taken up on Christmas and Easter days.

The children can remain until sixteen years of age. Homes are said to be obtained as rapidly as possible in well-regulated families.

It was stated that but one death had occurred since 1876, but that the swamp near by, and the tide flowing up the creek, caused malarial sickness, and at times a large proportion of the boys had been ill with chills and fever. On the day of my visit, June 7, two boys were ill, one was suffering from malarial causes.

Dr. Lyon, the physician, visits the institution three times each week, or as frequently as is necessary.

June 7, 1880, 102 boys were in the asylum, the majority being native born, orphans, or half orphans, and wholly dependent; 20 were over 14, and 38 under 10 years of age.

Seeing the boys in their school-room, the work-shop, in the field, and at their household duties, one realizes the very great importance and usefulness of the work here carried on.

A school is maintained throughout the year. The asylum is conveniently arranged, the accommodations roomy and pleasant. The stairways and halls are broad, the dormitories neat and well cared for, and the gymnasium large.

The kitchen and the whole edifice were very clean, well ventilated, warmed by steam, and with a plentiful supply of good water.

The government and discipline are such as is best to advance the objects for which the institution was organized.

A committee of five members of the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylums visit the institution at stated times.

## ST. JOHN'S RIVERSIDE HOSPITAL.

*Woodworth Avenue, Yonkers.*

Incorporated 1870, under general act of April 12, 1848.

This institution is under the direct control of the Protestant Episcopal church, but is not sectarian, its managers being chosen from all religious denominations, and no inquiry being made as to an applicant's faith or creed before admission, and each patient being allowed a choice of spiritual counsel.

It is governed by trustees, 24 managers, besides having a general committee of 22, and a medical staff of 10 physicians who serve gratuitously.

President, William F. Cochran.

Vice President, E. A. Nichols.

Treasurer, Lyman Cobb, Jr.

Secretary, C. L. Cozzens.

House Physician, N. A. Warren, M. D.

The hospital was founded by Bishop Jagger, who in his parochial visits saw the necessity of an organized institution, to which the destitute sick and accident cases could be instantly taken and cared for.

The first occupation of six rooms demonstrated the great need of such a charity.

To supply the evident necessity, the present hospital was purchased in 1868, at a cost of \$12,000. To this has since been added a surgical ward of two rooms.

The whole establishment having accommodations for 30 patients, with an actual average number of 15.

The hospital is pleasantly located, fronting the west, a little removed from the street, having its own drive to the entrance and around the house. There is a piazza on the front. Within, on the right are located the office and a free dispensary for outdoor patients, connected with the hospital, which is open daily from twelve to half-past one.

During the year prior to June 1, 1880, the total number of calls had been 1440, at each of which medical advice, medicine or surgical treatment were given. A recent report says: "In this way a charitable and humane work is done without the additional cost of boarding and lodging the patients, and many who apply here would hesitate about entering the hospital as inmates."

East of the office are the library (with its two good-sized cases of books) and the dining-room in one department, while beyond and opening from it is the kitchen.

North of the hall on the first and second floors are the two wards for men in charge of a man nurse, while the operating-room is on the third floor, as are also the women's and children's wards, cared for by a woman as nurse. One aged woman and three sick children were in their beds on the day of my visit, June 17, 1880.

A few pay patients are received. On June 17, a man of eighty-five and a woman of eighty were paying \$6.00 per week each.

It is not intended to admit patients with chronic or contagious diseases. The proportion of consumptive patients is said to have been large.

It is supported by board for patients and by private charity, and on June 1, it was free from debt with a small amount of money in the treasury. It has an invested fund of \$2,883.41.

The expenses for one year up to June 1, 1880, amounted to \$4,881.15, and the regular yearly income from subscriptions and investments to \$3,713. Economically as this institution has been conducted, it is not self sustaining, and the public have cheerfully responded to its appeals for help.

It has been the means of alleviating much suffering during the time it has been established.



The average cost of each patient the past year has been \$5.60 per week, including the expenses of the dispensary.

One child's cot is endowed.

Two years since, the operatives of the Yonkers' carpet factory unanimously decided upon paying a small weekly tax, in proportion to wages received by each, for the benefit of the hospital.

This self-imposed tax has amounted to \$900 annually, and has supported three beds, entitling the donors' admission into the institution with free care and medicines.

Four beds are at the disposal of factory operatives, one being supported by the employers.

The dispensary was opened in 1872.

The large number of surgical cases admitted and the proportion of patients restored to health, prove the great usefulness of this charity.

Mrs. Sarah J. Rickey has been connected with the institution eight years and has, during the past four, held and acceptably filled the responsible position of matron. She has 5 paid assistants, a cook, chambermaid, laundress and 2 nurses.

A committee of ladies visit it frequently and regularly : having the supervision of household affairs, they appoint the matron and faithfully perform the duties devolving upon them.

Mrs. W. W. Schrugham, First Directress.

Mrs. Fayette B. Brown, Second Directress.

Mrs. D. C. Kellinger, Secretary.

The language of a recent report is : "The public owe to our kind-hearted and unselfish physicians and surgeons a debt of gratitude for their faithful, gratuitous services in their attendance upon the sick and maimed who are our inmates."

## ST. JOSEPH'S HOME FOR CHILDREN.

### *Peekskill.*

Conducted by missionary sisters of the third order of St. Francis. Rev. Mother Bonaventure.

The home was opened in 1879 for the reception of dependent and orphan children over 2 years of age.

Girls are received at 2 years of age and remain until 14. The term for boys is limited from 2 to 6 years of age.

A discretionary power, by which the term can be extended beyond 6 years, if circumstances make it advisable, may be used by those in authority.

On August 19, the day of my visit, 86 children were in the home; of this number 16 were boys. With the exception of 3 free orphans, and 3 from Westchester county, all had been committed by police justices of New York city to the Reception House, 143 West 31st street, in the city of New York, then forwarded to St. Joseph's Home.

The city of New York pays \$8 per month for each child, for which sum, shelter, board, care, clothing and tuition are furnished.

The children are orphans, half-orphans, or with parents who neglect, or are unable to support them.

An agreement has recently been made with the superintendents of the

poor by which the dependent children of Westchester county will be received at 2 years of age, upon payment of \$2 per week each.

St. Joseph's Home is beautifully located on the eastern bank of the Hudson river, south of, and near the railroad station.

It is a large brick building, 42 by 75 feet, opening from the Franciscan Convent. It is three stories high, with a basement, in which are the kitchen and dining-room.

The school-room and infants' dormitory are on the first floor. The ceilings are high; and the house appears to be substantially built, well and neatly furnished.

It has a supply of hot and cold water throughout, and is lighted by gas.

It is presided over by 10 sisters of St. Francis, all of whom take an active interest and perform the varied household duties, each in her own sphere.

About 50 of the children are of a suitable age to attend school, at which appropriate studies are taught. From 3 to 5, in the afternoon of each day, instruction is given in sewing, and the garments made by the children are given them as their own.

As much attention is said to be given to the industrial department of education, as the tender age of the children will admit.

The older ones are required to care for the younger, and, where more than one member of a family is received, the natural relation is as far as practicable preserved by the eldest taking charge of brothers or sisters under supervision.

An annual report, containing the name and record of each individual child committed from New York city, is forwarded to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

This institution is supported by money received in payment of children's board.

## WESTCHESTER COUNTY TEMPORARY HOME FOR PROTESTANT CHILDREN.

### *Pleasantville.*

Visited June 16, and September 29, 1880.

Incorporated 1880, under the general act.

"Its object is to receive such children, who, or whose parents are of the Protestant faith, as may be committed to its care by the superintendents of the poor of Westchester county, N. Y., in a temporary home in which such children shall be cared for and receive education and industrial training."

It was organized by citizens of Westchester county, to provide a home for its dependent children, removed from poor-house associations and influences with the intention of "subsequently scattering them around the country in private houses, where they might lose the idea of their being paupers and grow up good and useful citizens."

On February 12, 1880, at a meeting of citizens and superintendents of the poor of Westchester county, the committees were formed and plans matured, and in February, the contract was executed. The association contracted, on their part, to take care of the children one

year from April 1, 1880, at the rate of \$1.50 per week, for which sum, board, shelter, care, clothing and instruction would be supplied.

A pleasant, medium-sized white farm-house surrounded by trees, with 19 acres of land, was procured at an annual rental of \$400, and fitted for the purposes designed. On April 1, 29 children were received.

On June 16, the day of my visit, 49 were inmates, from 2 to 14 years of age; 29 of the number were boys, and 19 of the 49 were between 2 and 3 years of age.

On September 29, 1880, there were 40 inmates, 16 were girls, and 2 over 14 years of age are weak-minded.

Among the number, were 4 boys and 1 colored girl. The largest number resident at any one time, since the opening of the institution, has been 53,—of whom 2 children were removed to St. Joseph's Home, Peekskill, in September by the superintendents of the poor.

Since the opening of the institution, 14 have been committed to it by the county superintendents, 12 have returned to their families, 1 ran away, and 14 have been placed in homes. A committee is appointed in each town, for the purpose of assisting in procuring homes for the children.

It is supported by money received for board of children, and by donations.

From April 1 to September 1, 1880, donations have amounted to \$3,800.85, and the money received for board of children to \$1,415.72.

The expenses during the same period for rent, repairs, salaries, furnishing, clothing, and other items, \$3,340.11.

The house, 45 by 40 feet, with an extension of 26 by 17 feet, although large as a farm-house, and the occupation of an ordinary-sized family, is small for 40 or 50 children with their attendants.

On the north side of the hall, upon the second floor, are 3 rooms, occupied by 21 boys. On the south side of the same hall are the nursery, and 2 rooms in which, on the same date, slept 15 girls, and the rooms are prepared for 20.

The play-grounds out of doors are ample and pleasant.

The house is adapted to the purpose, and arranged, as well as practicable with so small a building, with due regard to the requirements of an orphanage.

The children have generally enjoyed good health, having recovered from whooping cough and vaccination, from both of which they were suffering in June, and only one little child was ill.

The institution is suitably and comfortably furnished, the children seemed well cared for, and on the day of each of my unexpected visits, was clean and in good order.

The resident officers seemed enthusiastic in the performance of their duties, and in the care of the children.

The paid force consists of the superintendent, James W. Pierce, who entered upon the duties of his office in May, and "has since that time given satisfaction to the managers." Also, a matron, Mrs. Washburn, and the assistant-matron and teacher, Miss Haviland, and two assistants.



It is intended to have school three hours each day. The industrial education of the children is said to receive attention.

The children could not attend the public school as the accommodations were too limited to allow their reception, and the majority of the children were residents of other towns or school districts.

The systematic household regulations, and the discipline of the establishment seem to be the result of much study.

Dr. Brown, of Pleasantville, attends the sick when called upon.

The home is managed by a committee of ladies and gentlemen from each town in the county.

President, Mr. Charles Butler.

Vice-Presidents, Mr. G. P. Lowry, Mrs. Frank Vincent.

Treasurer, Mrs. R. M. Hoe, Jr.

Secretary, Miss Emily O. Butler.

### WARTBURGH ORPHANS FARM SCHOOL.

*Mt. Vernon, Westchester County.*

Established 1866. Visited Oct. 4, 1880.

Director, Rev. G. C. Holls.

This orphanage is under the control of the Deaconess Institution of the Evangelical Lutheran church, whose object it is stated, "shall be the relief of the sick and insane, the care of orphans, the education of youth, and the exercise of mercy to the unfortunate and destitute." It was founded in 1866, by Mr. Peter Moller, and Rev. A. Passavant of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. Peter Moller contributed \$30,000 as a memorial gift of a deceased son.

One hundred and twenty acres of land were purchased of the managers of the Five Points House of Industry for the sum of \$32,000. In 1866, work was commenced, and in the fall the home was opened with 28 orphans temporarily occupying a house on the premises, now used as a printing office.

The large two story building, with mansard roof, and a light, high basement, begun in 1869, and completed and occupied in 1870, was erected at a cost of upwards of \$50,000.

It is built of two shades of gray Westchester county stone, and is divided into two departments by the office and dining-room in the center of the first floor and the chapel and wardrobes on the second floor.

It is well built and conveniently arranged, the rooms are large, with high ceilings and are well ventilated, and appropriately furnished. The dormitories are large and neat, and the whole establishment scrupulously clean. The home is conducted upon the family system, the orphans upon admission are adopted into the family and become a part of it as a child in a father's house. The director and his family have little separate life, eating, as they do, at the same table, sharing the labors and pleasures of the orphans' home, all alike interested in, and working for, its prosperity. On the day of my visit, all were healthy and appeared happy, at the table eating with good appetites and working in the field with energy and animation.

A young boy's birthday was made memorable to him by the observance of the family custom, in the gift of a birthday cake at dinner.

In after life, when sickness and trouble come, its home welcome is again extended and the children return to its sheltering care, perhaps to die under its protection. One girl of 20 years who had been out at service, returned sick, and recently died.

It is a private charity, being supported by collections in churches and having no trust or endowment fund. This source, however, does not prove quite sufficient to defray its expenses, and although entirely free from any lien on the property, it is obliged to make this year, as in the past, an appeal to the friends of the orphan, to meet the deficiency, which, at present, amounts to about \$1,100.

The printing office, established in 1875, has two hand printing presses, and one cutting machine, the latter presented by the committee.

In this office, I saw 3 boys, 2 working the press and 1 sorting type, all judging from the results of their work, destined to become good printers. A variety of work is executed. The business cards, bill-heads, advertisements, pamphlets, etc., shown were specimens of good workmanship.

This branch of industry has been profitable to the institution. The past year the sum of \$1,000 was received in payment for work done, and it paid the expense of making the useful outside cellar that opens from the basement.

The girls, during the same year, made \$600 by ornamenting or making buttons, and this sum paid for the new pond and force pump.

An account book is kept, in which each member of the family is credited with his or her savings, and the whole amount deposited in a New York savings bank where it is accumulating, each one receiving his or her due upon leaving the institution.

The wardrobe rooms contain boxes for the clothing of each inmate.

Each child has its own little treasures, over which it has exclusive control. This serves an important part in the child's education, training it to take charge of its own property while strictly avoiding any interference with that of its companions, which is simply one way of teaching honesty.

The government of this orphanage is said to be parental, and that of a Christian family.

The director, Rev. G. C. Holls, has for 30 years been connected with institutions for children.

The house has accommodations for 70, is warmed by steam, and supplied with spring water forced into the house.

The chapel, where religious services are conducted by the director each Sabbath morning, and catechetical exercises later in the day, serves as a school-room during the week.

A common school education is given. Instruction in the English and German languages, drawing and music; the latter being considered one of the "greatest educators of the time, including as it does the singing of hymns."

South of the house is a flagstaff, from which the National flag floats on festival days.

The kitchen garden comprises 4 acres, and the vineyard 3; 100 acres are cultivated. There are 300 apple trees, and 600 standard pear trees, furnishing a large supply of fruit.

New cider is made by a hand mill. There are 12 cows on the farm.

The husk mattresses used on the beds were made by the boys. There are 3 paid assistants in the house and 2 upon the farm.

Much of the comfort of the household is due to the wife of the director, who adds good housewifery to complete and perfect its arrangements.

The orphanage is about half a mile from the highway, the drive to the house is bordered with cherry trees and affords a view of the New York Infant Asylum, near by.

The surroundings are all of a pleasant character. The rustic fences and seats are of boys' handiwork.

The farm affords an abundance of fruit and vegetables for table use.

The industrial education is an important feature of the institution.

Boys are instructed in all varieties of farm work, and gardening, etc. Girls in knitting, sewing, housework and other womanly employments.

The cemetery is in a cleared spot, prepared in the deep wood, and has in it three graves made within 14 years, the last, that of a descendant of Zwingle, being a recent interment, and the grave still decorated with fresh flowers.

Board of managers in behalf of the Deaconess Institution of the Evangelical Lutheran Church—Rev. Dr. Passavant, D. D., Mr. F. Schack, Rev. W. Berkemeier, Rev. G. C. Holls.

A board of 25 visitors and an executive committee of eight.

*The Dorcas Society* of Peekskill is not incorporated, but has for 15 years accomplished much good work, and is worthy of being included among the charities of the district.

Charity organizations, Temperance societies and Young Men's Christian associations each in their own sphere, performing much labor in the cause of charity, and contributing their part in aid of charitable work, are established in many of the villages and cities.

Respectfully submitted,

SARAH M. CARPENTER,

*Commissioner, Second Judicial District.*

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., November 9, 1880.

NOTE. The following resolution was adopted by the State Board of Charities, January 13, 1881:

*Resolved:* That in the opinion of this Board the establishment of homes under county care for dependent children is opposed to the spirit and reason of chapter 173 of the Laws of 1875, and chapter 404 of the Laws of 1873.





